Daily Report

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Students Demonstrate in Tirana; Police Intervene

AU0912172090 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1700 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Lights failed yesterday evening at dinner in two dormitories of the Tirana student center following an electricity breakdown of several hours. Some students, dissatisfied at this (?repeated) situation, protested, violating order and the public peace. It is suspected that this breakdown resulted from an overloading of the grid, following the massive use of electric heaters because the central heating [words indistinct] in recent days has not been completed.

This morning, some students attempted to exploit this discontent for political ends. They provoked the forces of public order and assembled in contravention of the law. As a result, the forces of public order were obliged to intervene to disperse them. The minister of education, the rector of the university, and others were present to talk with the students. A special government commission has been formed to shed light on the causes of the breakdown, to take measures to stabilize the situation, and to settle the students' demands.

Foreign Leaders Send Greetings on National Day

Germany's Von Weizsaecker Sends Message

AU0912163190 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker]

[Text] I send you and the Albanian people my best wishes on national day.

I hope that the reforms and decisions announced by your government for an opening toward Europe in the spirit of the radical changes which have enveloped the entire continent will become a reality to the benefit of all the citizens of your country.

SFRY's Jovic Sends Regards

AU0912165590 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from SFRY Presidency President Dr. Borisav Jovic]

[Text] On the occasion of the national day of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, in the name of the SFRY Presidency and on my own personal behalf, I send you greetings and best wishes for Albania's prosperity.

I avail myself of this occasion to reemphasize that Yugoslavia is in favor of developing relations of good-neighborliness and cooperation between our two countries on the basis of the principles of mutual respect, noninterference, and mutual benefit.

DPRK's Kim Il-song Greets Alia

AU0912164890 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, "from Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party and president of the DPRK"]

[Text] The 46th anniversary of the liberation of Albania and the victory of the people's revolution gives me the opportunity, in the name of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers Party, the government of the DPRK, and the Korean people, and on my own behalf, to send my warmest wishes to you and the Albanian people.

Since the country's liberation and the victory of the people's revolution, your people have made major progress in building an independent socialist Albania, overcoming many obstacles.

Expressing to you and your people my best wishes for greater successes in the tasks you have undertaken, which aim at preserving national independence and socialism and to achieve the country's prosperity, I avail myself of this occasion to express my conviction that the friendly relations of cooperation between the peoples of our two countries with be further strengthened and developed.

Italy's Cossiga Sends Message

AU0912165690 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Italian President Francesco Cossiga]

[Text] The celebration of your national day gives me a good opportunity to convey to you, in the name of the Italian people and on my personal behalf, sincere wishes for the prosperity of the Albanian people and Your Excellency's own personal health.

France's Mitterrand Greets Alia

AU0912165790 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from French President Francois Mitterrand]

[Text] I have the pleasure of sending you my best wishes on the occasion of the national day of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

May the ties of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples further intensify in the future.

CSFR's Havel Sends Regards

AU0912165890 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from CSFR President Vaclav Havel]

[Text] Excellency, on your country's national day, liberation day, I greet you and the Presidium of the People's Assembly.

In the name of the peoples of the CSFR and on my own personal behalf, I wish the Albanian people many successes in realizing their aspirations to build a democratic society.

Poland's Jaruzelski Sends Greetings

AU0912165990 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski]

[Text] On Albania's national day, I send to the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, and to you personally cordial greetings and best wishes for the comprehensive development of your country.

I wish to express the conviction that Polish-Albanian cooperation will develop in the interests of our two states and peoples.

Romania's Iliescu Sends Best Wishes

AU0912190990 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Romanian President Ion Iliescu]

[Text] On the occasion of national day and the anniversary of Albania's declaration of independence, I convey to you warm congratulations and best wishes for the Albanian people's progress and prosperity.

I express the conviction that the relations between our two countries will always and increasingly develop, making their contribution to strengthening the atmosphere of cooperation and trust among the countries of the Balkans and the whole of Europe.

Greece's Karamanlis Sends Telegram

AU0912191090 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Greek President Konstandinos Karamanlis]

[Text] On the occasion of your country's national day, in the name of the Greek people and on my personal behalf, I send to you warm congratulations and best wishes for the Albanian people's prosperity.

I hope that the existing relations between our two countries will be further strengthened to our mutual benefit.

Bulgaria's Zhelev Sends Best Wishes

AU0912192090 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev]

[Text] On the occasion of the national day of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, accept my greetings and sincere good wishes for the prosperity of the friendly Albanian people and the successful development of your country on the road of democratic changes.

I am convinced that the relations between our two countries will continue to develop in the interests of the Bulgarian and Albanian peoples and of peace and security in the Balkans, Europe, and the world.

PRC's Yang Shangkun, Li Peng Send Regards

AU0912192890 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Text] PRC President Yang Shankun and Premier of the PRC State Council Li Peng write in their telegram to Comrades Ramiz Alia and Adil Carcani:

On the occasion of the 46th anniversary of Albania's liberation and the victory of the people's revolution, in the name of the Chinese Government and people, we send to the Albanian Government and people sincere greetings and good wishes for the country's prosperity and well-being and the people's happiness.

We express the wish that the relations between China and Albania will continually develop on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

Turkey's Ozal Sends Greetings

AU0912193690 Tirana BASHKIMI in Albanian 1 Dec 90 p 3

[Greetings telegram to Ramiz Alia, president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, from Turkish President Turgut Ozal]

[Text] On the occasion of the national day of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, I have the pleasure, in the name of the Turkish people and on my personal behalf, to convey to Your Excellency my cordial congratulations and best wishes for your health and the prosperity of the friendly Albanian people.

I also avail myself of this occasion to express my pleasure at our recent meeting in New York, at which we emphasized that Turkish-Albanian relations are developing successfully and expressed our confidence that this development will continue.

Libyan Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives 3 Dec

AU0412131490 Tirana ATA in English 1050 GMT 4 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 4 (ATA)—A delegation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, headed by the deputy minister for foreign affairs, Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban, arrived in our country on December 3.

At the airport the delegation was received by the deputy minister for foreign affairs of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania, Muhamet Kapllani, and other functionaries at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Confers With Foreign Minister Malile

AU0612143890 Tirana ATA in English 0910 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 5 (ATA)—The minister of foreign affairs, Reis Malile, received the vice-minister of foreign affairs of Libya, Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban on December 4.

During the reception, which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere and where opinions were exchanged on the possibilities of the further promotion of the relations between Albania and Libya, Reis Malile pointed to the desire of the Albanian Government to materialize the friendly cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, cultural fields, etc.

On his part the Libyan vice-minister, Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban, reiterated the readiness of Libya's government to provide an ever more fruitful and concrete content to the relations with Albania.

In course of the talk the Albanian foreign minister spoke of the profound changes in Europe and in this framework put an emphasis on the important positive European processes of CSCE on our continent and international relations. Likewise, opinions were exchanged on the recent developments in the Balkans, the Middle East, and the Mediterranean.

Holds Talks With Foreign Deputy Minister

AU0612143990 Tirana ATA in English 0913 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 5 (ATA)—Talks were conducted on at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on December 4 between the Albanian delegation, led by the foreign deputy minister, Muhamet Kapllani, and the Libyan delegation, led by the foreign deputy minister, Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban.

In the talks, conducted in a friendly and working atmosphere, were evaluated the relations between Albania and Libya, and readinesss was aired that they develop and be further materialized in different fields of mutual interest, where economic cooperation should be considerably conducted, using contemporary forms and means, trade, cultural exchanges, etc.

The Albanian foreign deputy minister, Muhamet Kapllani, informed the Libyan foreign deputy minister of the profound democratic transformations actually taking place in our country in all the fields of life and the extension of the foreign relations. They talked also of the possibilities created by the recent decrees of the Presidium of the People's Assembly on foreign investments and joint ventures for an ever more intensive and broader cooperation with the world, including the Arab countries, with which Albania has close traditional friendly relations.

Opinions were exchanged on some developments of the international situation, especially for the positive European processes in the context of the CSCE, which albania has already joined and is attending and which cannot be considered separately from the Mediterranean region; on the Balkan cooperation as an integral part of the process of the security and cooperation in Europe; the situation in the Middle East, in the Persian Gulf, etc.

Meets Council of Ministers Vice Chairman

AU0712141090 Tirana ATA in English 0910 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 7 (ATA)—On December 6 before noon, Comrade Pali Miska, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, received at the seat of the prime minister's office Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban, deputy minister for foreign affairs of the Socialist People's Arab Libyan Jamahiriya.

In the negotiations held on the occasion, Comrade Pali Miska spoke to the Libyan friend on the socioeconomic development of the country, the traditional friendship binding our people with the Arab peoples, underlining that this visit will contribute to the further strengthening of friendship and of the relations between Albania and Libya. He acquainted the Libyan deputy minister with the measures for the further democratization of the life of the country, the improvement of our socialist legislation, etc., and pointed to the possibilities existing for the development and strengthening of the relations and

cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, agricultural, technical, trade, cultural fields, etc. Likewise he spoke on the correct and principled foreign policy of our country, the contribution of Albania to the strengthening of the Balkan cooperation, etc., which serves the freedom, independence, and sovereignty of the homeland. He dwelt on some aspects of the international development, particularly regarding the situation in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf.

On his part, the Libyan deputy foreign minister, Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban, thanked for the very warm reception, expressed his pleasure over the progress made in Albania, and underlined the readiness of the Government of Libya for the further development of relations and cooperation with Albania.

Attending the reception, which passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere, was also Muhamet Kapllani, deputy foreign minister.

Leaves Tirana 8 Dec

AU0912140690 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 2100 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] The delegation of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Husni Muhammad Shaban, which paid an official and friendly visit to our country, departed today. The delegation was seen off at Rinas Airport by Muhamet Kapllani, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and other officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

During its stay in our country, the Libyan delegation visited Berat, Durres, Kruje, and Lezhe, where it acquainted itself with our economic and sociocultural achievements.

Vietnamese Trade Union Delegation Pays Visit

BK0112161590 Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 1 Dec 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 1—A delegation of the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers led by President Nguyen Van Tu has paid a week-long visit to Albania at the invitation of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Albania.

It toured various production establishments in Albania and had working sessions with a delegation of the Albanian Trade Unions led by the President of the Trade Unions Central Council.

It was received by Foto Cami, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Albanian Party of Labour Central Committees, and Pali Misca, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers of Albania.

Alia, Carcani Greet Laotian Counterparts

AU0212144490 Tirana ATA in English 0903 GMT 2 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 2 (ATA)—The chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, Comrade Ramiz Alia, and the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Adil Carcani sent the following message of greetings to the president a.i [ad interim] of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Phoumi Vongvichit, and the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Kaysone Phomvihan:

On occasion of your National Day, the anniversary of the proclamation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, it is a pleasure for us to convey to you and through you to the Laotian people cordial greetings and best wishes.

The Albanian people sincerely rejoice over the results attained by the Laotian people in the construction and strengthening of national economy and culture and wish them fresh achievements in the progress and prosperity of the country.

We voice our conviction that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples and countries will develop nonstop.

Developments in SFRY, Kosovo, Europe Viewed

AU0612184490 Tirana ATA in English 0930 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 6 (ATA)—Under the above title the newspaper ZERI I POPULLIT of December 6, carries a writing by Prof. Sofokli Lazri, which says:

Presidential and parliamentary elections will be conducted in Serbia on December 9. Although they in Yugoslavia, and some certain West European circles expect that these elections give any way out to the Yugoslav crisis, it seems there is no hope of such a thing. There is no difference between the electoral programs of the parties created and the statements of their leaders. What is common between them is extremist nationalism and what is peculiar is a fierce war for power. All swear to make "Big Serbia" bigger, to realize more surely and sooner the establishment of Serb hegemonism throughout Yugoslavia.

All parties adopt a unanimous stand regarding Kosovo, all of them are for carrying on Milosevic's policy, precisely that policy which divided the federation and led the country to the threshold of civil war.

As it seems Serbia still does not want to realise that it is not only a grave but even fatal mistake to maintain Kosovo occupied and not to grant it the same rights as the other nations of Yugoslavia. In case it is not corrected soon, it will lead not only Serbia, but the whole of Yugoslavia to a more profound crisis.

Firstly, Serbia is not capable to oppress for a long time three million Albanians and subdue the Bosnians, to dominate the Macedonians, and ignore the Hungarians. Hardly can a Serboslavia stand on foot relying on the bayonets.

Secondly, no one would permit a South African-type apartheid in the fold of an emancipated Europe. At a time when the observation of human rights is being turned into the general base and norm for establishing inter-European relations, one cannot think of ignoring the peoples' national rights and the more so of violating them. If this will not be done, then the whole philosophy of human rights will end.

The maintenance of Kosovo's occupation is really a great suffering for Kosovo, but at the same time it is an expression of the agony of the archaic Big Serb chauvinism. Events prove that peace will be established neither in Serbia nor in Yugoslavia if the Albanians' national rights are not recognized.

But the Yugoslav crisis is also a crisis of the ideology and political mentalities of the big European powers regarding the treatment of the Balkan countries during this century. It is a crisis of the system of tutelage and clientele practised on them.

The formation of the Yugoslav state, just as it has been an aspiration of the Slav peoples of the south to get free from the Ottoman and Austro-Hungarian domination, has also been an offspring of the big powers, created to realize their strategic political plans in the ever lasting confrontations that have divided Europe. And Yugoslavia's destiny has changed depending on the alliances, confrontations, and relations among the big European powers. At first it was a barrier to Austro-Hungarian expansion towards the south and later on became a link of sanitary cordon round Soviet Russia. It was divided between East and West to serve as a buffer zone between them and was turned into a ground for all tests and experiments of the cold war between the two blocs.

Now when the situation in Europe is changing and the strategic importance of Yugoslavia has reduced, it is more difficult for this state to survive, because the international atmosphere that nourished it, and all the external restrictions that maintained Yugoslavia's nations united or subdued are lacking.

The message addressed to Yugoslavia from far and wide voice their great concern in maintaining its integrity. But how?

The big European powers which created and maintained it on foot yet have no intense interest to replace the policy pursued toward it until now. The motive alone to reimburse the debts is very impotent to be turned into a strategic interest.

Certainly, they too, realize such a situation, but still, having no constructive alternative, consider it as a routine. They act according to the old strategies at a time when they are no longer necessary, something that further rises confusion.

You often hear that Markovic's economic program will save Yugoslavia as a state, that suffice to establish the market economy, consequently all the political, national, and constitutional problems and contradictions, etc.,are solved.

Such preachings sound very sweet but they are not convincing at all. Prior to the second world war, Yugoslavia had both the market economy and a many-party system. Its peoples ruled by an ultra-reactionary regime over toppled it through much blood and sacrifices and ousted the fascist invaders. After the war they had another economy, but still they were not satisfied. History showed that both in the first and second case, decisive for the existence of the Yugoslav state and the coexistence of its peoples has been neither the economic system nor the many-party one, but the international relations.

Naturally, the improvement of the economic situation, the uplift of the living standard of the masses influences the improvement of the political situation, but not to that extent as in other countries. If in a national state the socio-economic relations are of first rate importance, in a multinational state as is the case with Yugoslavia, it is the national equality that is of primary importance. When such an equality does not exist, when there is no political consensus of the nations it is made up of, no problem can be solved through any kind of economic reform.

Today, all they in Yugoslavia, the Croatians and Slovenians, Bosnians and Albanians, Montenegrins and Macedonians, have accepted and endorsed Markovic's reforms, although they know they will also create economic and social differences. Nevertheless, the situation will not improve. On the contrary it will deteriorate to that point as many people state that it is better for Yugoslavia to dissolve than to survive as until now. This happens because Markovic's reform is incomplete, because it does not treat of the fundamental problem, that of political equality among the nations, because it sets no alternative for a new historic solution so as to ensure the maintenance and strengthening of the identity and sovereignty of different ethnic groups with no exception. As such it cannot be turned into a force of cohesion and integration.

More than two million Albanians will not participate in the poll for the Serbian parliament. They stated that in Kosovo province, now proclaimed by its assembly as a republic, Serbia has no right to claim for any kind of power. But their non-participation in the polls cannot be considered simply as a boycott. It is a real plebiscite through which the Albanian population expressed its will to be an independent political subject embodying all the political, national and human rights.

In order to convince itself and the foreign public opinion the Serbian propaganda claims that the Albanians in Yugoslavia are allegedly a minority, therefore they can not have the right to create a state, or to be equal participants with the

Slav nations in the federation. This is a propaganda claim which is wrong and completely false.

First of all the Albanians in Yugoslavia are not a minority. They are four, five or more times greater in numbers than the Montenegrins, more than the Macedonians, and occupy the third place as for their population after the Serbs and Croatians.

Secondly in a multinational state there can be no minority nations because the problem would arise that all those peoples whose population is less than that of biggest nation would be called minorities and, consequently, according to the concept of the Yugoslav leaders, would have to subdue to the latter.

Another claim is the one according to which there can be created no other state in the territory of Serbia. This a great absurdity as the Albanians do not live in any territory of Serbia. They have living in their territories for thousand of years and have not plundered an inch from the others' territories.

It is known that Serbia got hold of the Albanian territories on the eve of the First World War when the Ottoman Empire was overthrown. When in the 11th century the Slav tribes came to the current territories of Kosovo and to other territories they were inhabited by Albanian tribes which had also attained a great material and cultural development. It is the Albanians' merit and not their fault that the Serb tribes could not stay in Kosovo, just as they could not stay in southern Albania and in Greece.

Serbian propaganda also claims that the Albanians of Yugoslavia cannot have their own state as they have a mother state that is the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. This argument is groundless, because had it been accepted, then the question would rise: How is it better to solve their problem, by going with their mother or staying with the stepmother?

The Albanians of Kosovo have constantly stated that they do not want to conjoin Albania, but at the same time they do not want to live under Serbia's domination. They demand that Kosovo be a federative unit, just as the other nations of Yugoslavia.

Albania, too, has not set forth any territorial claim toward Yugoslavia, has not demanded that Kosovo be united with Albania. But this does not imply Kosovo's occupation by Serbia. Albania has supported and supports the undeniable right of the Kosovars to be a federative unit just as the other units with the same rights, duties and obligations.

The movement in Kosovo is not a separatist movement, because it seeks to secede from Serbia. It is a completely democratic and progressive movement as it demands to eliminate a great injustice, demands to win the national rights belonging to the Albanians, demands political equality with all the other nations of Yugoslavia, demands that Yugoslavia be built as a democratic state, decent to commit itself in the present European processes, a state where all the peoples and its citizens live in peace, friendship, and harmony with each other, live in peace and be happy.

Were this movement not such, it would have not been possible to attain that immense popular union as the union of the Albanians of Kosovo is, where rarely in history the big Serbs have it difficult to find any quisling.

When the Albanians used to say that the chauvinist policy of the leadership of Serbia toward Kosovo was the generator of the whole Yugoslav crisis, no one believed such a thing. But time proved that this policy represented the complete platform on the establishment of the Serb hegemonic domination throughout Yugoslavia. Had the Croatians and Slovenes opposed such a policy long ago they would have saved themselves and Yugoslavia from the big Serb menace. But they became victims of their opportunist tactics. They were of the opinion that the big Serbs would focus on the Kosovo question, they would fight against the Albanians for a long time and would silently arrange their affairs.

It was only when they realised that Milosevic's lads were seeking to reach Zagreb and Ljubljana to explain to them "the truth on Kosovo" that they began to react. But it was too late, they had sold out Kosovo at a very cheap price. The worst thing is that the Croatians, Slovenes, and others, continue to be mistaken even today. In all the debates regarding on the future of Yugoslavia, they do not set forth the right of Kosovo and of the Albanians in Yugoslavia to be an equal federal unit.

Still they do not set forth and do not ask for the Albanians' participation on equal footing in the political negotiations regarding Yugoslavia's future. Adopting such a stand they are contradictory with themselves. On the one hand they say that they do not endure Serbian hegemonism, on the other they accept it in Kosovo. They say that the Yugoslav state should be a unification of the equal and sovereign units of nations and peoples and deprive the Albanians of such a right. But they forget one thing: There can be no kind of Yugoslavia, either federal, confederal, symmetrical, or asymmetrical, if the Albanians' problem is not solved. Either will the Yugoslav state belong to all nations and peoples, or it will belong to the Serbs alone.

In the arisen situation the tactical alliances find it difficult to be realized. In former Yugoslavia there existed the Serb-Croatian alliance to dominate over the other peoples, but it failed. In the second Yugoslavia, it was the croatian and slovene silence toward the Serbian hegemonism, but it failed too. The third Yugoslavia, too, cannot be built up on short lived compromises.

As far as the Albanians are concerned, they are not illiterate like in the past, either in writing and reading, or politics. They know what they want, just like they know what they aim to attain.

In the political negotiations on the future of Yugoslavia, the Albanians wish to be equal participants with the federal units. This is not only a right, but also a condition for the good beginning of the solution of the constitutional crisis of Yugoslavia. To continue to ignore the Albanians means to complicate further more the situation and make it unresolvable.

But the Albanians know the stands of the Croatians and Slovenes, just as they know the stands of the European states. Certainly they are grateful also to those American senators who have manifested their sympathy for the Albanians of Kosovo, as well as to the European parliamentarians that have condemned the violation of human rights in Kosovo.

But the violation of the rights of the individual is not the sole problem of the Albanians in Yugoslavia. It is a greater problem, the refusal to recognize the national rights, from which originate those of the individual. Therefore, whoever says that he defends the human rights in Yugoslavia, he must say that he defends the right of the Albanians, too, to be equal political subject with the other nations of Yugoslavia. There can not be rights of the individual without national rights. This is what the Albanians are asking for from their friends and not such consoling words that the solution of the problem of the Albanians in Yugoslavia is conditioned by the democratisation of Albania or by propaganda factors other than Yugoslav.

The Albanians have never refused the aid of the friends, when it has been a sincere one, even when it has been substantial and modest as well. But they have relied more on their own forces, struggle, on their right. It is precisely this struggle that has enabled them to distinguish those who love them from those who deceive them, to become aware of the present and of the perspective.

The Albanian question and the Yugoslav crisis have another aspect too. It is beyond doubt that if there are quarrels and clashes in Yugoslavia, if Yugoslavia will not be a stabilized state, then peace in the Balkans might be shaken. It is precisely for this reason that the peoples of the Balkans exclusively require a stabilized Yugoslavia, but certainly a democratic and friendly Yugoslavia with all the neighboring countries.

Such a Yugoslavia is to te interest of Europe too. With a Balkanized Yugoslavia and a troubled Balkans, Europe cannot live in peace and the European processes develop as initiated. Such a Yugoslavia, sooner or later, would draw the European countries into inevitable confrontations among them. Willingly or unwillingly they would start preferring this or that republic, to sympathize this or that nation, to support this movement and oppose another. There will emerge those old quarrels Europe has suffered from and now is trying to abandon and overcome. It is precisely this objective situation, this reality that makes a Yugoslav crisis not simply a Yugoslav one. Unless it is solved in a democratic way and to the interest of all its peoples, sooner of later, it probably will be transformed into a Balkan crisis and later into an European one.

Alia Receives Mother Theresa 4 Dec

AU0612143590 Tirana ATA in English 0904 GMT 5 Dec 90

[Text] Tirana, December 5 (ATA)—Comrade Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, received Mother Teresa at the seat of the Presidium of the People's Assembly and had a warm and cordial talk with her on December 4, afternoon. After congratulating her for the 80th anniversary of her birthday, he said to Mother Teresa that one rarely finds people as her with a great heart, who take care of those who suffer, for the poor, the sick suffering from curable and incurable diseases. Due to this, he said, you enjoy the love of people throughout the world, the more so of the Albanians. This affection multiplies your energies and strength in your humanitarian work. Your visit to Albania has aroused a great concern and is attentively followed by the whole people, who see in you the features of their noble daughter. Peoples call you Mother Teresa of Calcutta, but we consider you Mother Teresa of Albania.

Thanking Comrade Ramiz for the warm address, Mother Teresa said among the other things that she is too glad to visit Albania again. Yesterday, she said, I visited a kindergarten, named "Mother Teresa" and I was happy when seeing the good conditions created for children there. All the newspapers of India carried the news that a kindergarten in Albania was named after me. Then she told Comrade Ramiz Alia on congregation in service of the sick, abandoned, etc. This work, she said, affords us a great pleasure, because we share with them human joy and affection.

In the course of the conversation, Comrae Ramiz Alia spoke to Mother Teresa on the great care taken by the state in Albania for the people's health, the extension of health institutions, the special care for the sick. Many diseases disseminated in the world at present, have been liquidated or are not known in Albania, he said. Comrade Ramiz Alia also spoke on the great concern of the people and our whole society to protect man's health. This concern is also seen in the all-sided contribution and support of our citizens for the Albanian Red Cross. This is something very good, he said, because it educates the people with the sentiments of humanism, love, and friendship with one another.

In the end, Comrade Ramiz Alia wished Mother Teresa a long life to carry on her noble mission. Albania respects you, because you too honour Albania, he said.

In this reception, Mother Teresa was accompanied by the chairman of the Albanian Red Cross Dr.Ciril Pistoli, and the directoress of the Institute of Oncology, Adelina Mazreku.

Zhelev Proposes Popov for New Prime Minister

AU0712174090 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1012 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Speech by President Zhelyu Zhelev at Grand National Assembly session in Sofia—live]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, esteemed National Assembly deputies, following prolonged separate and joint consultations with the political forces within the framework of the Political Consultative Council, we reached an agreement on the nomination of Mr. Dimitur Popov for the post of Council of Ministers chairman.

Dimitur Popov is a lawyer and he has worked in the legal profession all his life. From 1950 through 1971 he worked as a legal consultant, from 1971 through 1990 he was a judge. As of March 1990 he has been chairman of the Sofia City Court of Justice. According to his own statement, he has never been involved in any political court case. He is a specialist in penal and transportation law. He is the author of numerous publications and books. He is known to our broad public for his activities as secretary of the Central Electoral Commission during the Grand National Assembly elections. He conforms with one of the basic requirements voiced in the political forces' agreement, namely that the prime minister should not belong to any political party.

I propose to the Grand National Assembly to entrust Mr. Dimitur Popov with the task of composing a cabinet within a week and to submit the cabinet list to the Grand National Assembly for approval.

I appeal to the political forces and trade unions to support this government on the basis of the political agreement which is expected to be signed and published tomorrow, 8 December, or on Monday, 10 December 1990. The strength and nature of the future government will depend on the support of the political forces and trade unions. If the support is strong, the government will be strong, and vice versa.

According to the aforementioned agreement, the government is expected to work in close cooperation with parliament, both in the legislative activities and in preparing the forthcoming municipal and the next parliamentary elections.

The events are scheduled in the following order:

The municipal elections are expected to take place by the end of February 1991. The parliamentary elections are expected to take place in May 1991 at the latest.

Naturally, it is up to the Grand National Assembly to make all these decisions. Without its vote, no one can decide anything of the sort. I am talking about the agreement of the political forces, this is what I am explaining. The parliament could decide to dissolve by the end of March 1991 while committing itself to adopt eight urgently required laws by 15 January 1991. There are five laws on the basis of which the government should put the economic reform into operation. They are the following:

The law on the land; the law on privatization; the law on banking and on investments protection; the law on a new taxation system, and the law on social welfare. The three following laws concerning the basis of which the local and parliamentary elections will be held, should also be passed:

The law on the country's new territorial organization; the law on local elections, and a new election law.

The new constitution should be adopted within the period between 15 January to the end of March 1991. According to general opinion, this should be possible.

Immediately following the adoption of a constitution, the Grand National Assembly should announce its self-dissolution and set the deadline of new elections for an ordinary parliament by the end of May 1991.

To accomplish all these tremendous tasks, the government parliament, and the political forces should make optimal efforts to further improve parliamentary work, and the work of the preliminary preparations and discussions of draft laws within the committees, in particular. All efforts of the experts' groups should be mobilized in connection with finishing and specifying the draft laws, so that they may assist the Grand National Assembly commissions in their work.

I am convinced that Bulgaria has a sufficiently great potential in professional talents and that they should be actively involved.

Last, but not least, before I end my statement, I would like to say a few words about the former prime minister and the former government. I will deviate slightly from our popular Bulgarian tradition, according to which anyone who is stepping down from the political scene is slandered, offended, and disgraced to such an extent that he hardly recognizes himself.

People and their qualities should be objectively judged, which also applies to politicians. In this context I would like to say that Andrey Lukanov is not withdrawing because he does not possess the necessary qualifications for a politician. On the contrary, I still believe that he is one of contemporary Bulgaria's most gifted politicians and the most distinguished figure in his party. His political tragedy is not a personal drama, it is the tragedy of a political party which is doomed to separate itself from state power. This process has been going on for over a year already.

The loss of the prime minister's post by the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] is only a link in the consistent chain of political changes. In this context, irrespective of all his talents, the prime minister of a single-party BSP government could not help becoming the target of criticism against his party's past guilt and of public discontent about the economic crisis. I am not saying such things for the sake of talking, but because I am convinced that it is not

appropriate to explain the government's resignation by conspiracies and political intrigues, even if such elements should really exist. Such things cannot provoke widespread discontent. In the second place, Lukanov as a political figure and his professional qualifications should not disappear from our country's political life. Our country needs his knowledge, connections, and professional skills, because it does not have so many talented politicians.

Popov Formally Accepts Candidacy

AU0712160790 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1021 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Speech by Dimitur Iliev Popov, agreeing to stand as candidate for election as prime minister, in the Grand National Assembly—live]

[Text] Esteemed Chairman, esteemed ladies and gentlemen people's deputies:

At 1000 [0800 GMT] today, I was invited by Mr. Zhelyu Zhelev, the president of the Republic of Bulgaria, on the basis of an agreement between the political forces in the country, to accept the candidature for the post of Bulgarian prime minister and to assume the task of forming a government.

In discussing the conditions under which this government should be formed and the role it is expected to play, and also the deadline within which it is expected to implement a minimal program, I am well aware of the time in which we live, of the situation in which the Bulgarian people and our state find themselves, and of the current disposition of the political forces and of their activities. Being aware of the exceptional difficulties facing the new government, irrespective of who is heading it; being aware of the difficulties and trials which all those who headed the previous, recent governments have experienced; and being fully aware of the personal and not only personal responsibility to the people and to our native land, I accepted the aforementioned proposal submitted to me.

However, I accepted it with hope, which should not be interpreted as a condition for which the president of the Republic should provide a guarantee.

Such a government, headed by a person who does not belong to any political force, a professional person, or public figure, can successfully cope with such tasks, only with the condition that it enjoys, above all, a high standing in parliament and a broad public support, the support of all political forces and strata outside the parliament. The cabinet should be composed of solid professional figures and inspired by a common spirit of good will and constructive approach. Under the current circumstances, I would not consider it reasonable and useful to assume the responsibility for a government which is heading for political self-sacrifice. I see this government as a government of hope for our people, as a government which assumes the task of halting the process of decline with joint efforts and of liberating the country from the state of total impotence, of promptly restoring the effectiveness of the public institutions without which no society whatsoever can be ruled.

The necessary changes of an economic and legal nature, without which stability in our life is unthinkable, should be promptly implemented.

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen National Assembly deputies, you understand better than me that we need a strong government which should be welcomed with hope and approval, with the support of all forces in the country, a government which should enjoy the confidence of forces outside the country.

Without such a government we shall never be able to gain the urgently required support and recognition both in the political and economic spheres. This should be a preliminary condition for me and for you.

In full awareness of my responsibility, I would accept joining you in promoting the process of peaceful transition from one system to another. At the beginning of this fateful year in Bulgarian history the political forces which you, the National Assembly deputies are here representing, reached an agreement which I would call memorable, namely the agreement that the transition to democracy, to a parliamentary, rule-of-law state should be a peaceful one. You accepted the mechanism of this transition, namely the elections. These were perhaps the only elections in Bulgaria for a multiparty system, considering that no multiparty system ever existed in Bulgaria. I am convinced that in the elections our nation successfully passed a serious political test.

I would be gratified if we should succeed in forming a government reflecting the strong political presence of the parliamentary forces and a strong social [word indistinct].

Esteemed ladies and gentlemen, without your presence in such a government, without your support, the government would be doomed to failure. I would not commit myself to participate in a government unless this condition is fulfilled. At the same time, I count on the possibility of trying to form a government composed of [word instinct], of people who enjoy public respect, who have Bulgaria's well being in mind and who are ready (?for such tasks). If you give us your confidence, if you give us your support, namely if are prepared to provide the opportunity for fulfilling this task, I would gratefully accept the assignment.

I would like to express my gratitude for the patience with which you listened to me. I am an optimist, I believe in the [word indistinct] of (?future life) in Bulgaria, I believe in the Bulgarian people, I believe in their talents. I would be happy if as a result of our work things in our homeland would be in a better state than they are today.

Thank you for your attention.

Discusses Forming New Government

AU0712183390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1155 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Interview with Dimitur Iliev Popov, proposed candidate for prime minister, by unidentified reporter in the National Assembly building in Sofia on 7 December—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] We have invited Mr. Dimitur Popov into our radio studio in parliament. First of all, we would like to congratulate Mr. Popov on his new post. It is not the first time that Mr. Popov has been in our studio. Many of our listeners remember that every day during the first and second rounds of the national elections he was the person who briefed us on the election results. Now he has assumed a new role. You were at the Grand National Assembly which entrusted you with forming a government. What is your view on this?

[Popov] I cannot yet say how I feel about it. A proposal has been made, as prescribed by the Constitution, and the Grand National Assembly, together with all the other members' speeches, accepted and approved this proposal. Naturally, this is a decision of the Grand National Assembly, and the proposal by the president of the Republic places me under a great commitment, namely, to utilize my past work and experience to form a government which I call a government of hope.

[Reporter] Do you think that this is an easy task?

[Popov] I am aware that it is not easy, it requires great efforts to fulfill the commitment of forming such a government, but I am optimistic and would like to believe that with joint efforts I will find people ready to assume the responsibility of being members of the forthcoming government.

[Reporter] I would like to ask you something else. I heard some rumors about some people describing this government as a government of self-sacrifice. Maybe you do not think that this is a government of self-sacrifice. What have you to say about this to our listeners?

[Popov] I heard on several occasions some talk about a government of self-sacrifice, about kamikaze, and suicide, and similar expressions and adjectives. I am not planning on forming a government of sacrifice, or self-sacrifice. On the contrary, I would like to try to establish a strong government, which despite the short time at its disposal, should try with joint efforts to effectively contribute to halting the economic decline, the discrediting of our state system, and the devaluation of the government's role, thus creating a power vacuum.

[Reporter] There has been much talk about the Lukanov program, about other programs and [word indistinct].

[Popov] I am acquainted with all programs, even before I was summoned to the National Assembly, and it is difficult to say which program the government will adopt. I am not committed to any program. I will try, in cooperation with the future cabinet members, to propose a realistic and feasible program.

[Reporter] Can you say something else. Lukanov's program was described as a cruel program. How will the people react to the program which you intend to implement?

[Popov] I do not intend to propose any cruel programs to the people, but I would not like to promise that everything will proceed in a rosy fashion, (?only with self-confidence and unrealistic results). I could tell the people, whom I love so much and to whom I am committed, that our government will live through hard days together with the people, but together with the people we shall try to overcome all this and proceed toward a brighter future.

[Reporter] We shall overcome.

[Popov] Yes, we have no other choice, we have to survive.

Approved by Assembly; Week To Form Cabinet

AU0712141590 Sofia BTA in English 1333 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—Judge Dimitur Iliev Popov, 63, member of no party, was approved as prime minister by the Grand National Assembly and was assigned the task of forming the new cabinet within a week.

The candidature of Mr. Popov was moved by the President of the Republic Zhelyu Zhelev.

Dimitur Popov was born on June 25, 1927, in the town of Kula in north-west Bulgaria. He is the son of a priest. In 1950 he graduated in law from the Sofia "Kliment Okhridski" University. For a period of 17 years he worked as a jurisconsult in transportation companies. He has been judge at the Sofia City Court since 1972 and he is its president now. In April he was elected secretary of the Central Electoral Commission for the first democratic parliamentary elections in the contemporary history of Bulgaria.

According to his statement he has never tried political cases. He is an expert in criminal and transport law. He has written several books and has numerous publications in periodicals.

Mr. Popov is married, his wife is a nurse. He has two daughters.

Mr. Popov told a BTA reporter he was optimistic about the composition of the future cabinet. In his opinion the country is in need of a strong government, at least for a while, which would enjoy the confidence of the parliament and of the public.

Later he said from the rostrum he was ready to head a "cabinet of hope" which with joint efforts would take the country out of the crisis.

Moving the candidature, President Zhelyu Zhelev called the political forces and the syndicates to support the new government.

He said that the local elections should be held by the end of February, 1991 and the parliamentary elections by the end of May. The most urgently needed laws should be adopted by mid-January and the new Constitution a little later. All this has been envisaged in the political agreement which will soon be signed and published, the president said.

The president gave a high assessment to the qualities of the former prime minister Mr. Andrey Lukanov noting that his resignation was not a matter of a personal drama but an expression of the fact that the Socialist, former Communist, Party was doomed to fail.

I will be happy if I succeed in forming a government of experts, Mr. Popov said in parliament.

He said he was well aware of the extremely difficult tasks facing the new government. According to him, a cabinet, headed by a person who does not belong to any political force, can succeed only if it receives strong parliamentary credit and wide public support, including from the parties outside the parliament.

I would not take the responsibility for a government which is preparing to make a political self-sacrifice. I envisage a government which, with the combined efforts of everyone, would stop the downward slide and will restore the confidence in the state institutions, Mr. Popov said.

The parliament approved President Zhelev's proposal that Mr. Dimitur Popov forms the new government in a term of seven days.

Fifteen deputies voted against and there were 29 abstentions.

The parliamentary faction of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] will support the candidature of Dimitur Popov, one of its leaders said, because it wishes to be constructive. Of the UDF [Union of Democratic Forces] the Bulgarian Social Democratic Party and the "Nikola Petkov" Bulgarian Agrarian Party have expressed their support for the proposal of the president. Dr. Petur Dertliev, the leader of the Social Democratic party, considers Mr. Dimitur Popov to be the right person at the present political moment. This is a settlement of compromise, the leader of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party Mr. Viktor Vulkov said, but it is close to the idea of this party for a wide coalition. The Movement for Rights and Freedoms wished the new prime minister success.

Possible Opposition Objections Noted

AU0712115090 Sofia BTA in English 1018 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 December (BTA)—Mr. Dimitur Popov, a non- party member judge, will be assigned the task of forming the new cabinet, participants in today's talks at President Zhelyu Zhelev's office told the BTA. For the time being it is most likely that the president will assign Mr. Dimitur Popov the task of forming a government but it is unclear whether he will succeed in the present situation, some politicians added.

The parliamentary union of the UDF [Union of Democratic Forces] has not discussed this candidature and there may be objections against Mr. Dimitur Popov, who was secretary of the Central Electoral Committee during the first democratic parliamentary elections held in June this year. He is a good judge, a colleague of his, a jurist and MP from the opposition, said.

The allocation of the ministerial posts has not been discussed at the political consultations yet.

Popov, Socialist Party Leaders Discuss Cabinet

AU0812214290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2100 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Aleksandr Marinov, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], announced today at the national conference of the Marxist Platform for Unity and Renewal of the BSP, which is being held in Sofia, that the BSP leadership held consultations today with Prime Minister Dimitur Popov. He described the formula which is under consideration for the new cabinet. For example, three deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers will represent three political forces—the BSP, the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS], and the Bulgarian National Agrarian Union [BZNS].

During the preliminary consultations concerning the key ministries—initially six ministries were declared, but later their number increased to eight—they were divided into two, that is, three against three. The BSP insists on taking the Ministries of Internal Affairs, Finance, and Justice, while the SDS will have the Ministries of National Defense, Economics and Planning, and Foreign Affairs.

The BSP also wants to be given the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, and for the SDS to be given the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Services, but if agreement cannot be reached on this, the BSP is willing to cede both ministries to the opposition. The remaining ministries and departments will be allocated equally, while it will be left open for some of them to be headed by nonparty people who are good specialists.

Aleksandur Marinov also stated that the two main political forces are equally represented in the cabinet which is to effect a peaceful transition to democracy.

Zhelev Comments on Government Crisis, Reforms

AU0812155890 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 7 Dec 90 p 13

[Interview with President Zhelyu Zhelev by Josef Riedmueller; place and date not given: "A Phase of Misery Will Be Unavoidable"]

[Text] [Riedmiller] Mr. President, promyana—change—began one year ago in Bulgaria. Since that point,

the opposition in the form of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) and the socialist government, which essentially still represents the former Communist Party, have been waging a tough struggle. Can the current government crisis been viewed as the last battle in this struggle?

[Zhelev] In a certain sense, one could say that. However, the most important thing is the reforms that must be carried out in Bulgaria now. The resignation of Lukanov (former socialist head of government) from the political scene does not yet represent a step toward reforms and the dismantling of the old structures in the economic and the political sphere. It will be necessary for the new government, which will replace the Lukanov government, to really push things ahead, both in the economic and the political sphere.

[Riedmiller] Will a coalition government between the SDS and the Socialist Party really work, and what is even more important, will it be able to solve Bulgaria's difficult problems?

[Zhelev] At the moment, only a coalition government is possible. The second one-party rule by the Socialist Party has shown that it is not able to carry out reforms. For this reason, it had to resign. However, a one-party rule by the opposition would not be in a position either to tackle the problems because it would not be supported by the majority of the population and by parliament. Thus, a coalition is unavoidable. The question is now who will dominate the coalition and what program the coalition government will agree on. There is another important question—the question of confidence. The opposition enjoys greater confidence among the population than the socialists—also abroad and among the democratic public of the world. However, so far the opposition has not demonstrated what it is capable of achieving and what it is not capable of achieving.

[Riedmiller] Is Bulgaria not confronted with the fact that both the Socialist Party, which ruled on its own, and the SDS are divided among themselves? The Council of the Socialist Party only reluctantly agreed to Prime Minsiter Lukanov's resignation. There are also rifts within the SDS.

[Zhelev] The SDS is a coalition of many parties and social organizations, and their leaders naturally hold different views and opinions. However, there is agreement on the major issues. This can be the basis for participation by the opposition in the new government.

[Riedmiller] The driving forces behind the political development in Bulgaria do not seem to be represented in parliament. On the one hand, there are the old structures of the Communist Party, and on the other there is the extra parliamentary opposition in the form of the Podkrepa Trade Union and student circles. How can a government function in this situation?

[Zhelev] You are right. Since the relationship between the political forces in parliament does not correspond to the situation in the country, friction and tension are bound to occur both within and outside parliament, and naturally also between parliament and the public. This shows how complicated the president's task will be in this situation.

[Riedmiller] Can somebody govern in Bulgaria without taking into consideration that the Socialist Party can still rely on considerable support among the population? Do you think that their support is based on existing dread?

[Zhelev] First of all, the influence of the Socialist Party is no longer so strong in the country. Polls taken in October and November show that support for the Socialist Party has declined considerably. About two-thirds of those polled would support the opposition in elections, and only one-third the Socialist Party. However, even if opinion polls should reveal even worse results for the Socialist Party, it must not be removed from the government and parliament and from the leadership of the country as long as it continues to wield an influence in the country. Attempts to exclude the other side completely from political life resemble Bolshevik methods.

[Riedmiller] What do you think of new elections? Do you think they might change the political scene in Bulgaria fundamentally? Do you think that elections might lead to a strong government?

[Zhelev] The majority thinks that a government should be established now and must prepare local elections for February and possibly parliamentary elections for May. On the basis of these parliamentary elections, we will be able to determine the real relationship between the political forces in the country, and these political forces will be represented in parliament in a normal way on the basis of the expression of the people's will. It is difficult for me to make forecasts. One would have to compare our sitation exactly with that of other countries. I think there are both positive and negative sides.

[Riedmiller] Bulgarian emigrants do not seem to play a role at all or only a very small one in the reform movement, unlike in other socialist countries. Do you consider this an advantage or a disadvantage?

[Zhelev] In the past, under the communist regime, emigration played a very negative role, particularly at the beginning. We do not want to repeat this experience. Of course, we have nothing against Bulgarian emigrants participating in the reforms and the restructuring of the country. However, we would like them to work resolutely.

[Riedmiller] As compared with other countries, the reform movement started very late in Bulgaria. As a matter of fact, it was initiated by the Communist Party. What are the reasons for this?

[Zhelev] The more backward a country is in its development, the stronger the influence of the Communist Party is. I believe that this is the reason for the deep roots of the communist ideology and practice in Bulgaria. However, I do not believe that we are lagging behind so much with our reforms. It think that it is a question of months until real reforms are initiated—the privatization of land and

industry, and other basic reforms. We started these developments so much later than the Poles. However, if one considers the pace of changes and reforms, we really moved ahead much more quickly. In addition, the pace of changes in Bulgaria must be seen in connection with the changes and the pace with which they were carried out in other countries, including the Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, the CSFR, and Romania. If one compares Bulgaria with these countries, one realizes that we are lagging behind some of these coutries, but that we have achieved more than a few other countries. I believe that we have made more progress than the Soviet Union, for example, and I think that there is no doubt that we are also ahead of Romania.

[Riedmiller] There are signs that Mikhail Gorbachev is trying to slow down the pace of reforms in the Soviet Union and to forge a compromise with the conservative forces, and to adopt stricter measures in domestic policy. Do you think that these phenomena may have an impact on Bulgaria, in the sense that the Socialist Party believes that the reform process has already been completed?

[Zhelev] The process of restructuring in Bulgaria is proceeding at such a speed that direct influence from the Soviet Union seems inconceivable. The influence of the West on ideas and policy in Bulgaria is currently much stronger than that of the Soviet Union. For us Soviet perestroyka is a phase that belongs to the past. A return to the past in our country seems very unlikely to me.

[Riedmiller] Mr. President, I would like to ask the philospher in you a question: Is what we are witnessing now merely a crisis of the socialist idea or is this its end, its last struggle?

[Zhelev] I believe that the socialist idea will always exist, because it has existed since the birth of Christianity. I think that it failed in our case because people believed that it could be realized. However, it has turned out to be a utopia. Efforts to implement it in practical life resulted in a complete disaster. However, the socialist idea will probably always exist as a striving for social justice and a certin degree of equality among people, and it will be modified in various ways.

[Riedmiller] What are the real reasons for the failure of this idea? Do you see economic, intellectual, or moral reasons?

[Zhelev] I see mainly economic reasons. The economic model on the basis of which the socialist idea was to be implemented in reality has failed completely. It turned out that this model cannot function at all. Thus, the socialist idea failed first of all in the economic sphere, which had consequences in the intellectual and moral sphere.

[Riedmiller] Why is there not sufficient food in Bulgaria? Bulgaria has always exported agricultural products. Is Bulgaria not producing enough or is it exporting too much?

[Zhelev] It is not producing enough. There are a number of reasons for this. On the one hand, we are currently in a transitional phase from central state planning to a free market economy. We are going through a period in which the old structures do not work any more and new ones have not yet been established. People are feeling insecure, and we are witnessing a practical standstill at the moment. In addition, there is also the gulf crisis. This has an impact on our energy situation. We have an energy crisis, because we do not have sufficient energy resources. We are also facing a crisis of the socialist states, of the socialist camp, and the disintegration of CEMA. All contracts under which we received and supplied goods have more or less collapsed. All this is happening at the same time and has led to a general severe crisis.

[Riedmiller] It is a common feature of all former socialist countries that they have underestimated the difficulties linked with the transition from a planned to a market economy. It is quite obvious that a general model for such a transition does not exist.

[Zhelev] No matter how comprehensive these difficulties may be, we must overcome them. There is no other way. This will probably be a longer and more complicated process than we originally assumed. As the sparse experience of other socialist countries shows, various phases of privatization will take place over a longer period of time. There will be small-scale and large-scale privatization. The different phases must be prepared both in economic and ideological respect. One must tell people and make clear to them that this is the only way, that they will go through a certain period of misery. No matter who carries out the reforms, they will not be able to avoid this. Many people believe that everything will be perfect on the first day after the introduction of the market economy. However, this is not possible. Going through a period of crisis, of economic decline, and even of misery is unavoidable.

[Riedmiller] How long will people keep quiet?

[Zhelev] Our efforts will show that in the future.

TU Leader Petkov on New Government Relations

AU0812163290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] In an interview given to a BTA representative in Plovdiv today, Professor Krustyu Petkov, leader of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria, commented that it is quite possible for the future government of Dimitur Popov to carry out within only two or three weeks about one-third of the obligations unfulfilled by the previous government which form part of the general agreement signed with the trade unions. He added that it would be nothing terrible if the rest of the agreement was fulfilled at the start of the coming year, because this part is connected with the expected changes in economic legislation. The confederation is already considering a general agreement with the government for next year, but would be unwilling to bind itself by such an agreement unless the legal basis was clear.

To a question concerning the secret files campaign which had started, Prof. Petkov stated he had already prepared

a file on himself personally, which had been sent to three locations, and also abroad. The trade union leader said he had at his disposal a written document which revealed the mechanism of exerting pressure on the Bulgarian intelligentsia during the Zhivkov regime. Instead of unmasking those who held us under ideological, political, or some other form of control, declared Prof. Krustyu Petkov, attempts are now being made to discredit people who found the strength to tell the truth about their actions in the years before 10 November.

KNSB Head Petkov on Future of TU Movement

AU0812195090 Sofia BTA in English 1832 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Excerpts] Plovdiv, 8 Dec (BTA)—The leader of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (KNSB) Prof. Krustyu Petkov said that it would be quite possible for the eventual government of Mr. Dimitur Popov to fulfill about a third of the non-performed obligations of the former government included in the general agreement it signed with the syndicates. [passage omitted]

Asked for his opinion of the secret files campaign, Prof. Petkov said that he had already made his own file and deposited it in three places, including abroad. [passage omitted]

For several days now, he said, Bulgaria has been moving backwards and to the right. "If this country proceeds from 'Zhivkovism' to 'Trenchevism,' at least one million people will leave it."

A way to fight this tendency, according to Prof. Petkov, is the signing of an agreement between the political forces which would denounce this "peculiar witch hunt." The TU leader sees another possibility in the consolidation of the intelligentsia and in its bringing itself to point to the people who had exercised pressure on it in the conditions of totalitarianism.

The leaders of the confederation confirmed they were ready to accept the split in the KNSB. Speaking of the "Edinstvo" ["Unity"] TU, Prof. Petkov said that "it would probably turn to the Leninist-Stalinist TU model with its present not elected but appointed TU leaders." According to another leader of the confederation it was quite normal for "chisti sindikati" (pure syndicates) and "edinstvo" (unity) to emerge in "Blue Plovdiv" because "the image of the enemy here is strong and this naturally leads to the consolidation of the Bolshevist masses."

Further on Trenchev's Alleged Security Contacts

AU0712214090 Sofia BTA in English 1957 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—Dr Konstantin Trenchev, leader of the Podkrepa Labor Confederation, described as "fakes" the materials incriminating him as a secret police informer.

He wants an official Bulgarian and international expert examination of the materials.

A source who spoke to the press on conditions of anonymity brought the "materials which are being circulated against Trenchev" to Podkrepa today. Asked on national television about such documents last night, Dr. Trenchev mentioned that back in school he had informed the secret police about an attempted sale of narcotics to him.

Xeroxes of the materials incriminating Dr. Trenchev as a police plant were made available to reporters this evening. They will probably appear in the press tomorrow.

Dr. Trenchev is categorical that the declaration dated December 18, 1972 is a fake: At that time he was a 17-year-old pupil at the French Language School in Stara Zagora. The declaration addressed to the Ministry of Internal Affairs states the signer's willingness to collaborate with the police, informing on "young people's misbehavior".

In the rest of the materials, the schoolboy Trenchev informs the authorities about his schoolmates' sharing morphine. "There was some morphine affair among my schoolmates," Dr. Trenchev told the news conference. "My father, a doctor, took me to the police headquarters to prevent the spread of drugs among my schoolmates. I testified before uniformed policemen," Dr. Trenchev said today.

"The names in the materials"—Dr. Trenchev made a point of not calling them documents—"belong to real persons." Apart from information on the morphine circulating among his schoolmates, the materials contain reports against them concerning what they said and banned books and Mussolini badges owned by a friend of his.

"All this is true: The names of my schoolmates, the things about the books and badges, but I am not the one who wrote it," Dr. Trenchev emphasized when this reporter pressed for an answer.

Dr. Trenchev denied any later dealings with the secret police. He had talked to secret police officers when he was a student at the start of his medical career, but "I was already on the other side." His latest encounters with state security date from last year when he founded the Podkrepa Trade Union "but due to these interviews my hair has turned gray," Dr. Trenchev said today.

The leaders of Podkrepa knew ever since the trade union was established about the schoolboy Trenchev's reports, they emphasized at a news conference today. They accept his assertions that he had not systematically collaborated with the secret police. In an express communique the Executive Board of the Confederation says that Podkrepa wants the competent authorities to establish the authenticity of the circulated materials discrediting Dr. Trenchev.

Secret Service TU Against Declassifying Files

AU0812151890 Sofia BTA in English 1317 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 8 Dec (BTA)—The Independent Trade Union of Employees of the National Service for Protection of the Constitution and of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Administrative Structures has issued a declaration disagreeing with the Grand National Assembly resolution on the declassification of the secret police files of part of the MP's who have been fulfilling or are fulfilling assignments linked with the national security of Bulgaria.

The declaration points out that the resolution may well affect people who have saved many lives, who have helped the detection of spies and terrorists, and who have prevented the smuggling out of valuable property belonging to Bulgaria's cultural and historical heritage.

The declaration, addressed to the Grand National Assembly Committee on National Security, calls on its members to adopt a professional approach to the matter. It says that if the information contained in the files which will be made available to the parliamentary committee is declassified, the harm will be a thousand-fold greater than the dubious benefit which parliament, the parliamentary factions and some individual MP's may derive.

Daily Editor Says Informers Issue 'Not New'

AU0712122590 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 5 Dec 90 p 2

[Stefan Prodev's article: "Retort"]

[Text] The issue of informers is not new. Already in the first days of the Grand National Assembly's activity, on behalf of a group of people's representatives from the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP], I posed the issue of the deputy's moral image. At that time no one paid any attention to the declaration I read. Furthermore, DEMOKRATSIYA carried an article by Georgi Spasov, who reviled me.

After the declaration read at the National Assembly, DUMA several times posed in a central place the issue of the informers. The newspaper was reviled by the same forces. Some people did not like the issue. Something bothered them, and perhaps even threatened them. Especially active in this respect were certain former BSP members, who joined the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS].

Today we understand that the curtain that conceals political informing must be lifted. One must see what hides behind it. It is terrible to think that the informer and his victim sit next to each other in the parliament. Therefore, as a people's representative I again support the motion of submitting the files of the former informers to the Grand National Assembly. One must finally understand who the man sitting next to him is. Who has submitted secret reports and who was described in those reports? Who struggled against totalitarianism and who sold his soul to it?

Many have been forced or invited to serve the secret organs; however, not all of them soiled their dignity. Therefore, let us not seek retroactive justifications and excuses. We all know how difficult it was and what the price of having a civic position was. Now is the time to understand the position of each of us. Men of dignity rather than informers with broken characters should sit in the parliament next to those with innocent souls. This applies not only to the parliament.

It would be difficult but honorable if our society were to free itself once and forever from the nightmare of informing. Otherwise, we shall continue to live in hell.

Students Protest Political Forces' Agreement

Say Demands Not Considered

AU0712205690 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] The session of the National Strike Committee continues at Sofia's Saint Kliment Okhridski University. The participants in the session severely criticized the agreement of the political forces which was published in the press.

According to the students' strike committee, none of the items of the 25 October 1990 memorandum submitted by the students has been taken into consideration.

The strike committee leaders are discussing the further proceedings of the students' strike.

National Day Marked; Sit-Ins Continue

AU0812195290 Sofia BTA in English 1839 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 8 Dec (BTA)—Today is the Day of the Bulgarian Students. Many of them will mark it in the auditoria of the higher schools because the sit-ins declared by the students at the beginning of November are continuing.

December 8, 1888 is the date of the establishment of the first higher school in Bulgaria—the present "St. Kliment Okhridski" University in Sofia. The students have been celebrating this day since 1968. Till last year the academic festivities were accompanied by "initiatives" which were to prove the loyalty of the Bulgarian students to the former regime. Around this date there were organised meetings of the students with the former No. 1 Todor Zhivkov and each member of Politburo visited one of the higher schools of the country. This tradition was not forgotten last year; though Zhivkov was already ousted, the students met his successor Petur Mladenov.

But in the course of a year the students succeeded in proving that they are the most radically minded part of

society. On December 14, 1989, they set up the Independent Students' Society which became one of the co-founders of the Union of Democratic Forces.

On June 11, a day after the first multi-party elections, the students declared their first sit-in. Apart from their political demands, the students also insisted on the indictment of those responsible for the crisis. The sit-in led to the setting up of towns of truth in the capital and in the country. It resulted in the resignation of the first Bulgarian president Petur Mladenov.

The second wave of student protest, which rose in the beginning of November, demanded, among other things, the resignation of Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov. Though this demand has been satisfied the students refuse to stop their strike. They do not want to be the weapon of any political force and insist on guarantees that their demands, syndical and political, will not be forgotten by the politicians.

Today, through their dailies, the main political forces congratulated the students. The students form one of the social groups which most strongly condemned the totalitarian system and trying to keep in pace with the moral and social demands of the students we would like to believe that the moral criteria with which they are viewing the past and the present will not fade away with time, reads the greetings address of the leadership of the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] (former BCP) [Bulgarian Communist Party], a party frequently criticized by the students.

National SDS Conference Opens in Plovdiv

Journalists Barred From Hall

AU0812151390 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Interview with Union of Democratic Forces spokesman Mikhail Nedelchev in Plovdiv, by Georgi Papakochev in Sofia—live]

[Text] [Papakochev] Today the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] is holding a national conference in Plovdiv. Despite the decision not to admit journalists into the hall, our reporter Yasen Indzhev managed to invite Mr. Mikhail Nedelchev, SDS spokesman, to brief our radio listeners on the telephone on the work of the conference.

[Nedelchev] I would like to say that Yasen Indzhev was admitted for the first three minutes when the conference opened in the Philharmonic Concert Hall. I want to emphasize the excellent work on organizing the conference which our SDS friends in Plovdiv carried out. This is a national working conference, with very wide representation. The participants include representatives of the SDS municipal coordinating councils, members of the national SDS Coordinating Council, as well as SDS National Assembly deputies.

Mr. Petko Simeonov has already delivered his report on the strategy of the SDS and its parliamentary group in the political situation which has been created. The speeches have now begun. Some of the first speakers, for example, included Dr. Yordan Todorov of the Social Democratic Party, chairman of the SDS Consultative Council in Sofia; Stoyan Ganev, who spoke about the parliamentary work of the SDS; and Dimitur Ludzhev, who was beginning his speech when I left the hall. Many other speakers have still to be heard, as many people have put their names down to speak.

The second problem which will be discussed concerns the internal organization of the SDS and coordination between its various formations. Of course, the financial report, which will be made tomorrow, also has to be discussed. We look forward to interesting debates on the multitude of problems to be discussed. I would only like to say that Petko Simeonov's speech was very interesting, with very precisely worded formulas and definitions, including one which I want to mention, concerning the need to launch an attack against the cocoon of the small closed world of those people who until now were involved in the totalitarian system in the small settlements and villages. His speech contained many other valuable points, and I hope that our sympathizers and supporters will be able to read the speech in DEMOKRATSIYA.

[Papakochev] Thank you for the detailed information, Mr. Nedelchev, but nonetheless I am bound to ask you the reason for the decision not to admit journalists to the hall.

[Nedelchev] It is simply that this is really a working meeting, at which we want to hear dissenting opinions which critically view the activity of the SDS until now, and this is simply unnecessary. The journalists will have an opportunity to obtain exhaustive information on the course of the conference at 1700 [1500 GMT] tomorrow, when we will hold our briefing.

Conference Ends; Mission Reaffirmed

AU0912194190 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Excerpt] The two-day national conference of representatives of the Coordination Councils of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS] throughout the country ended.

A resolution was adopted. It points out that the SDS must reaffirm its understanding about participating in the executive power. The SDS strives for the government not for its personal benefit, but to facilitate the democratization of our country's political system.

Further on the resolution reads: Our union passed a difficult road in order to understand the necessity of assuming responsibility for managing the country and declares that it will cooperate with the new government of specialists, without the participation of political leaders, in order to begin the implementation of the economic program.

The participants in the national conference have recommended to conduct the municipal and parliamentary elections together, or close to each other, by the end of March 1991.

The parliamentary union, of the SDS must improve its work related to adopting laws in the Grand National Assembly.

The resolution recommends to the SDS Coordinating Council and the leaderships of the parties and organizations to overcome certain differences they have and place the common interest above the interests of the separate organizations and parties.

A National Consultative Council has been established. It will include representatives of the Coordinating Councils from the former okrugs and representatives of the separate political parties which form the coalition.

It was recommended to form a new coalition on the country's national and ethnic issues to avoid speculations with the people's feelings and concerns in regions with mixed population.

The resolution insists that the SDS parliamentary union and Coordinating Council demand from the Grand National Assembly to point out people's representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party, now the Bulgarian Socialist Party, who have rendered services to State Security. [passage omitted]

Lilov Meets Local BSP Control Council Chairman

AU1012092090 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 3 Dec 90 p 1

[Darina Radeva report]

[Text] On 2 December Aleksandur Lilov held talks for three hours with chairman of municipal control commissions of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] from all over the country, who had gathered in Sofia for a working meeting. The doubts, alarm, and attempts to disclose the reasons for the party's tactical mistakes made the audience take the speaker's words quite literally, when he said that there were no awkward questions. The main topics in the discussion were the conduct of the party since the elections, which did not always follow the rules of logic; the continuing and deepening crisis of confidence in the BSP; and the responsibility of the Supreme Party Council and its chairman for this situation. Speaking about the situation surrounding Andrey Lukanov's resignation, Aleksandur Lilov once again stressed the need to seek to consolidate the nation's forces to overcome the grave crisis which, if the present confusion continues, may indeed develop into a disaster.

The question of compromise, which many regarded merely as a retreat, proved to be a painful one. "Organized progress through a modern policy in the fields of the political, economic, social, and ecological reforms is possible and necessary. Unless our party is able to conduct its policy by democratic means, it has no chance," said the chairman of the BSP Supreme Council.

To the question whether Lukanov's resignation means the end of his political career, the answer was that our country does not possess so many capable people that it can allow this.

Secret BCP Discussions on Glasnost Club Alleged

AU0712142090 Sofia BTA in English 1122 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—In a series of publications DUMA, the daily of the Bulgarian Socialist Party, has revealed the content of secret protocols of sessions of the Politburo and the Secretariat of the former Communist Party [BCP] held in 1988 and 1989 at which the rout of the then Club in Support of Glasnost and Restructuring was discussed.

The leadership of the Communist Party viewed the establishment of the club as overt resistance against its totalitarian rule. No permission had been asked of the respective departments of the Central Committee and more than a half of the founders of the club were then members of the BCP. The transcripts cited by DUMA reveal that the most adamant opponents of the club were Mr. Todor Zhivkov and his closest associates, people who have now left the political stage, most of them being under investigation for considerable financial crimes and abuses of power. But among them there are also people whom, after Zhivkov was removed, the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party] (the renamed BCP) proclaimed to be leaders of the democratic changes. These are the former president Mr. Petur Mladenov, who resigned in July, the outgoing Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov, who handed in his resignation last week, and the former minister of defence and now MP General Dobri Dzhurov. The sharpest criticism of the club came from Mr. Petur Mladenov. At the end of 1988 he said that the dissident club threatens the dominant role of the Communist Party in the government of the country. General Dzhurov insisted on the adoption of "exceptionally strict and strong measures" against the founders of the club.

Among the club's founders were the present president of the Republic Dr. Zhelyu Zhelev, many leaders of the oppositional UDF [Union of Democratic Forces] and of the Socialist (former Communist) Party which has proclaimed its reformation.

Results of Army Depoliticization Published

AU0712205790 Sofia BTA in English 1911 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—Two per cent of the servicemen on active duty have refused to give up their membership in political parties. Half of them are young officers in lowest-rank positions.

After the Grand National Assembly voted an amendment to the Political Parties Act depoliticizing the Army, the

security forces and other major institutions, the servicemen were given a month to make their choice. Those who have not signed declarations stating they are not members of any political party and will not carry out political activities in the Army, are considered discharged.

The two per cent of the non-commissioned and commissioned officers who preferred their party membership to a job in the Army are entitled to severance pay.

Generator Faults Causing Continued Power Cuts

AU0812195590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Today the country's energy system has a deficit of about 1,600 megawatts in generating capacity. The reason is the burst in the condenser of the No. 5 generating unit at the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant, which occurred at 0722 [0522 GMT] this morning. There were also bursts in the boilers of the No. 4 unit at the Varna Thermoelectric Power Plant, the No. 3 unit at the Bobov Dol Thermoelectric Power Plant, and the No. 4 unit at the Dimo Dichev Thermoelectric Power Plant, which each have a generating capacity of 200 megawatts.

This has made it necessary to interrupt electric power supplies to the country for one hour in every four. To alleviate the supply conditions for citizens, individual industrial enterprises have also reduced their consumption.

At 1540 the No. 5 generating unit of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant was connected in parallel with the energy system, and until 1900 will deliver a power output of 300 megawatts, after which it will be gradually run up to its full output of 1,000 megawatts. During the period after 2300, the restrictions on domestic and industrial electricity supplies will be lifted.

Power Workers Strike Committee Attacks Management

AU0712162790 Sofia BTA in English 1402 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—"Candles will not disappear from Bulgarian households soon," power industry trade unionists told a news conference today. The failures in the industry are due to long-time mismanagement including megalomania, inadequate structure and participation in money-losing international projects, they added.

The senior members of the united strike committee demanded the resignation of the power industry committee management, saying they had facts incriminating it of corruption.

The power engineers told the press that the country needs only 7,000 megawatts of energy while installed capacities generate more than 11,000. Taking into account the expected import of 700 megawatts per year, Bulgaria can collect approximately 12,000 megawatts.

This state of affairs is due to the unreasonably high percentage of big reactors in the nuclear power plants. The reactors are unreliable and their service life is merely seven years instead of the 25 years required by international standards. Moreover, when switched off, they cause serious problems in the whole power system.

Most of the generating capacities are worn out and often break down. Because of draughts [as received], inefficiency and coal shortage the hydro-electric and thermo-electric power stations operate below capacity.

The representatives of the strike committees said they are prepared to take further action in case the power industry bosses fail to meet their demands.

Agriculture Ministry Discusses Meat Shortages

AU0712205890 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] At today's meeting between managers of meat processing enterprises from all over the country and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry the problem of the Sofia citizens' survival was raised in connection with the food shortage.

This statement is no more alarming than the facts. The specialists stated that no less than 7,000 tons of meat are required to guarantee the minimum vital needs of the capital's population in December. Nevertheless, there are only 120 tons of meat in the basic food reserves, which are kept only for hospitals and children's establishments.

It was pointed out that the meat situation in the capital, which is one of the country's nonmeat producing areas, is especially critical. It is even more critical than that of other nonmeat producing areas.

While waiting for the government to introduce the new rationing system, which is actually based on the 1947 model using food booklets, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry is trying to improve the situation of the Sofia market.

The meeting with the managers of meat processing plants was devoted to this goal. They submitted the so-called accounts on the minimum amounts of meat which should guarantee the supply for the capital. According to the reports, 3,500 tons of meat and sausages are expected to be delivered to Sofia food stores. The production of the Sofia meat processing plant will be added to this. Assistance from Austria in the form of sausages is also expected to arrive. In this case the 1.5 million Sofia citizens may hope that 4,850 tons of sausage will be available to them for the New Year celebrations.

High Interest Bonds Offered for Public Auction

AU1012092290 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 3 Dec 90 p 1

[Text] Beginning today, 3 December, the State Savings Bank and commercial banks are offering bonds with values

of 100, 200, 500, 1,000, 10,000, and 50,000 leva to private and state companies and to citizens. The interest rate on the bonds is 15 percent, and payment of capital sums and interest will commence on 1 December 1991.

The bonds are being printed by the Forum Print Company, and their inspection is being carried out by specialists in securities of the mint.

Some of the bonds are not yet being printed because of difficulties, mainly connected with the special banknote paper which is imported from abroad and carries a protective water mark.

The bonds are designed by the artist Dimitur Toshev.

Interference in Media Strike Reporting Protested

AU0812162590 Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian No. 49, 3 Dec 90 p 5

[Declaration of the Secretariat of the Bulgarian Journalists Union; place and date not given]

[Text] The prime minister made an attempt to interfere in the work of the national mass media—the radio, television, and press agency. This is the first case in the past year of restriction of free speech and the right of access to information. It must also be the last!

The Secretariat of the Bulgarian Journalists Union categorically condemns such undemocratic pressure.

At the same time, the Secretariat makes an appeal to the workers in the national media to provide full, truthful, and objective information in these difficult days for our country.

As a trade union organization, the Bulgarian Journalists Union is, and will always be on the side of colleagues who fight for freedom of speech.

Governments come and go, and our political and social life is difficult, but the journalist must always be on the side of the truth.

Journalists Demand Action on Newsprint Supplies

AU0812181690 Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian No. 49, 3 Dec 90 p 5

[Letter to Chairman (President) Zhelev, the Council of Ministers Chairman, and chairman of the Commission on Culture and Intellectual Values of the Grand National Assembly from Bulgarian Journalists Union President Stefan Prodev; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] Dear Sirs:

The Bulgarian Journalists Union [BJU] is at a loss to know what words to use to make the most responsible authorities in the Republic of Bulgaria understand the seriousness of the crisis facing the Bulgarian press. It is evident that the great alarm and anxiety which the BJU has expressed since May 1990 in the form of appeals, declarations, and specific proposals to all of you are smashed into fragments against the rocks of the bureaucratic structure of state government.

Bulgarian newspapers and journals face mass destruction because of lack of newsprint.

Several months ago a working group was formed, which prepared a series of sterile draft documents, ostensibly concerning the provision of and trade in newsprint during 1991. After the BJU's representatives coparticipated in several stages in the efforts of this group to find an acceptable solution, the BJU now categorically dissociates itself from the group's attempts to draft yet another document of good intentions which contains no specific proposals whatsoever. [passage omitted]

The BJU, having refused to take part in the work of the group which has existed until now, insists that the functioning of the group should be radically reorganized; that representatives of the public and, most important, of the editorial boards should be included in the group's membership; and that new postulates and a new philosophy should be created for the group's work. Only then will the BJU continue to cooperate in finding the most correct solution, which should include the following: an exchange market and quotas regarding the state's priorities in relation to cultural, scientific, and educational publications and municipal newspapers (which the BJU insists on especially strongly); halting the uncontrolled rise in prices for printing services and fixing them within reasonable limits, and so on.

If this is not done before 10 December, the BJU will be obliged to call upon its members and colleagues throughout the country to undertake trade union actions of all kinds to reveal to the public the identities of the forces which are "for" and "against" freedom of the press.

December is already late, but a solution is still possible. January is also late, but the situation then will be disastrous.

On behalf of the Bulgarian Journalists Union,
Stefan Prodev, chairman.

Kuwait People's Congress Delegation Arrives

AU0812151790 Sofia BTA in English 1346 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 8 Dec (BTA)—A delegation of the People's Congress of Kuwait, led by Mr. Abdul Rahman al-Gunem [name as received], minister of city planning and member of parliament, arrived here late last night.

We are here to express our gratitude to the Bulgarian people for its worthy stand towards Kuwait and to explain in greater detail our stand on the Persian Gulf crisis, the leader of the delegation told a BTA reporter.

The guest pointed out that during his visit there will be discussed issues of the cooperation between the two countries, the promotion of the existing economic and

cultural contacts. We are aware of the price Bulgaria is paying for her stand towards Iraq. We hope that after Kuwait is liberated bilateral trade will increase, that we will once again accept Bulgarian workers and promote our relations in other spheres of life as well.

The delegation will have meetings with President Zhelyu Zhelev, with the chairman of the Grand National Assembly Academician Nikolay Todorov and with leaders of the political parties.

Gotsev, Zhelev Receive Delegation

AU1012103490 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1000 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] The delegation of the People's Congress of Kuwait continues its visit to Bulgaria. The delegation is led by 'Abd al-Rahman al-Ghunim [name as heard], minister of city planning and member of parliament.

The delegation was received by Foreign Affairs Minister Lyuben Gotsev and Zhelyu Zhelev, chairman of the Republic.

During the talks special attention was devoted to the issue of restoring Kuwait's sovereignty and the development of the Persian Gulf, as well as to Bulgarian-Kuwaiti relations.

In the afternoon the Kuwaiti delegation will be received by Nikolay Todorov, Grand National Assembly chairman.

Military Official on Results of Visit to Turkey

AU0712102890 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 5 Dec 90 pp 1,4

[Interview with Colonel Chavdar Chervenkov, member of military delegation which visited Turkey between 28 November and 4 December, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given; first two paragraphs are NARODNA ARMIYA introduction]

[Excerpt] A Bulgarian military delegation pays a visit to Turkey! The idea would have seemed preposterous only a short time ago, but it is a fact today. A delegation headed by Lieutenant General Lyuben Petrov, first deputy chief of the Bulgarian People's Army General Staff, returned from our southeastern neighbor country yesterday.

A representative of our editorial board met Colonel Chavdar Chervenkov, chief of the "Disarmament" Inspectorate, who was a member of the delegation.

[Reporter] Colonel, what was the objective of the Bulgarian military delegation's visit to Turkey?

[Chervenkov] As early as during our preparations for the visit it turned out that this was the very first visit of a Bulgarian military delegation to Turkey, especially at such high level. The main objective of our visit was to establish first contacts and establish mutual acquaintance between our two armies, and to prepare a meeting of the general chiefs of staff, which is expected to take place in Sofia, in March 1991. Our second task was to search for methods of cooperation in the military sector, mainly in the light of the Conventional Arms Treaty and the Vienna CSCE document.

[Reporter] Can you describe the specific results of the the Ankara meetings?

[Chervenkov] Whenever we are talking about the results of the meeting we should take into consideration the rank of the Turkish participants in the meeting. Army General Yonder [name as published], assistant of the deputy chief of staff; Army General Burkhan [name as published], chief of the Chief "Planning and Forecasting" Department; Lieutenant General Ilhan Kilic, head of the "Disarmament" Department; Brigadeer General Krishoglu [name as published], and Brigadier General Yoney [name as published] participated in the talks. In addition, Lieutenant General Lyuben Petrov, first deputy chief of the Bulgarian People's Army General Staff, our delegation leader, was received by Army General Necip Torumtay, chief of the Turkish Armed Forces' General Staff (who resigned on 3 December 1990).

We can definitely say our first contacts with Turkey marked the beginning of a confidence-building process. The two sides agreed to search for mutually advantageous methods of facilitating the implementation of the adopted documents. They also agreed on questions related to the activities of the special groups (chiefly in connection with Conventional Arms Treaty) in connection with facilitating their travel within the respective territories and on creating the best conditions for their work. As to the Vienna document on improving confidence measurers and security, we submitted some proposals. We proposed that the chiefs of staffs and defense ministers should meet on a regular basis. Following 1992 contacts on lower levels could be established. Thus, for example, meetings of Army commanders and division commanders could be arranged. The second package of measures extends to the exchange of lectures in military educational institutions dealing with subjects related to military doctrines and military budgets, to the organization of the armed forces and to certain types of material-technical equipment and medical services in the armies. Exchange of specialists is also envisaged—such as the exchange of military physicians, sports delegations, and military journalists. I would say that such a meeting should have taken place a long time ago to establish the foundations of a cooperation and to disperse some mutual doubts. I would like to point out on this occasion that the meeting should be viewed in the context of our Balkan initiatives and that its results are not aimed against other countries. Our talks do not affect the interests of third countries. [passage omitted]

Greek Red Cross To Send Humanitarian Aid

AU0812152090 Sofia BTA in English 1215 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Sofia, 7 Dec (BTA)—"Two more C-130 transport planes will bring humanitarian aid from Greece,

including baby food and other foodstuffs", Mr. Yerasimos Apostolatos, president of the Greek Red Cross, told the BTA.

The Greek people readily responded to the appeal of the Greek Red Cross for humanitarian aid to Bulgaria. The humanitarian campaign was also joined by the Greek Orthodox Church.

Mr. Apostolatos said he was pleased with the distribution arrangements made in Bulgaria for the humanitarian aid sent by the Greek Red Cross. Mr. Apostolatos discussed cooperation in the delivery of the aid with senior officials of the Bulgarian Red Cross, the Health Ministry and the foreign aid agency.

A special commission of the Greek Red Cross is to certify the shelf life of the foodstuffs.

Mr. Apostolatos told about the visiting services system set up by the Greek Red Cross in which one nurse visits about 50 ill and helpless old people at their homes. The Greek Red Cross officials are ready to train Bulgarian specialists to introduce this system which does not require large investment, according to Mr. Apostolatos.

Providing humanitarian aid for Bulgaria is one of the priorities of the Greek Red Cross, Mr. Apostolatos said.

Czech Parties Support Pithart on Power Sharing

LD0712201990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart addressed an extraordinary session of the Czech National Council this afternoon with a keynote speech on the so-called power-sharing bill. [passage omitted]

After his speech the joint meeting was adjourned, and the deputies' clubs covened without the presence of the media. What is the situation now? That is what we asked [reporter] Alena Millerova who reports from the Czech parliament building:

[Millerova] Originally, the discussions in the deputies' clubs were intended to last only 60 minutes, but it evidently was not very easy for them to take a stand on the very important information given to them by Petr Pithart. About 135 minutes later, that is to say at 1815, the debating hall came to life again as the representatives of the various deputies' clubs stated the standpoints they have reached. They are supporting the Czech Government and they are expressing confidence in it. They stressed that they link their future, as does the large majority of our people, with the federation. At the same time, however, they realize that there cannot be unending concessions to particular political interests, and that the preceding government agreements cannot be considered as a diktat or as a model for the way in which the Federal Assembly deputies should reach a decision.

The deputies of the Movement for Self-Administered Democracy-the Society for Moravia and Silesia—that is to say, the deputies of that club—proposed a new federative setup for the republic in the form of a federal state.

Then the deputies adopted a resolution in which the Czech National Council, in short, expresses agreement with the action of the Czech Government in defending the power-sharing bill in the version in which it was adopted by the Czech National Council deputies at their session, and they reject any sort of pressure on the Federal Assembly.

I will conclude with this news: Federal Ministers Vaclav Klaus and Vladimir Dlouhy have been here at the Czech National Council to learn the attitude adopted by the Czech National Council deputies on Petr Pithart's report, and they also conveyed their own statement on today's speech by [Slovak Prime Minister] Vladimir Meciar on Czechoslovak radio. The text of this statement has also been obtained by CTK, and I believe that Czechoslovak radio will also broadcast it.

Meciar Warns Against Changes in Law on Powers

LD0712183990 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1600 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] The Presidiums of the Slovak National Council and the Slovak Republic Government were in session in Bratislava today.

Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar told journalists after the discussions that the session was extraordinarily important because the Slovak National Council and the government are alarmed by the changes in the law on division of powers which were proposed by Federal Assembly committees.

As Vladimir Meciar said, if these changes are adopted, the government will be unable to fulfill its program statement and the activities which the government planned to carry out during its term of office would come to nothing.

At the same time Vladimir Meciar added that, in the view of the Presidia of the Slovak National Council and the government, the version of the bill on division of powers put forward to the Federal Assembly by the Slovak National Council is acceptable. He said he regrets that some parties which participated in talks about the agreement are now renouncing it and come with new demands aimed at strengthening centralism.

Slovak National Council Chairman Frantisek Miklosko said on this subject that the Presidium of the Slovak National Council at the moment decisively supports all that has taken place in the parliament. He stressed that the Federal Assembly presently assumes responsibility for future developments in Czechoslovakia. Frantisek Miklosko expressed his conviction that an agreement will be reached after all.

Meciar Doubts Attitudes of Dlouhy, Klaus

LD0712203790 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Remarks by Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar following a meeting of the presidia of the Slovak National Council and the Slovak Republic Government in Bratislava on 7 December—recorded]

[Text] We discussed the question why some members of the Federal Government are not considered by us as federalists. They should examine where they make mistakes in their work and they should analyze their work, the creation of policy, relations toward Slovakia, the practical impacts on Slovak policy, the actual [word indistinct] of Calfa, Dlouhy, Klaus, Living Environment Minister Vavrousek. It would also be wise if they were to reassess their actions in the Federal Government and think realistically about the needs of Slovakia and react to these needs. I do not know if we are oversensitive—maybe all parties work in this way, but then it is so much

worse... because we (?would have to discuss) these persons, as well as the results of their work and the impact of their work here in Slovakia.

Dlouhy, Klaus Reject Allegations

LD0812000790 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] [Announcer] CTK has issued the following report: Federal Ministers Vaclav Klaus and Vladimir Dlouhy reject as a matter of principle the utterly irresponsible statement made by Slovak Prime Minister Mr. Meciar on 7 December 1990 that in discharging their duties they are acting against the interests of the Slovak Republic. Not only is this claim not based on the truth, in addition it introduces a completely false note into our politics. We do not propose to launch into considerations about who is causing the most damage to Slovak, Czech, or Czechoslovak interests. We can present a number of arguments about economic losses arising of late as a consequence of attempts to undermine our common state. We see these attempts above all in the conduct of certain representatives of the Slovak Government who are demagogically confusing the irrationality of the dying centralist regime with the essential integrating role of the federal bodies. We do not believe that this cannot be just as clear to the people in Slovakia as to everyone else in our federal state.

I now welcome both ministers here in the studio. What led you to issue this standpoint?

[Klaus] What led us to it? I think it is clear that it is Mr. Meciar who led us to this statement, and I think it necessary to say clearly—not only on our own behalf but also on the behalf of our colleague Vavrousek who is abroad and cannot be here, but also, I think, on behalf of the other members of the Federal Government—that nothing anti-Slovak has ever happened in the Federal Government. I consider this a very bad claim, and I think Mr. Meciar knows this very well. Therefore, I think we must all watch our step at this very sensitive time so as not to say anything that should not be said. That is why we felt the need not only to write this, but also to come here.

[Dlouhy] If I can add to that, then above all it is that I personally am very disappointed. Prime Minister Meciar's words today make me very sad, because I have always acted from the position of the Federal Government in such a way as to uphold the interests of the federation in the way I believe they should be upheld.

Naturally there are differences between us on, for example, how we understand the economic role of the federation. That is clear, but I think we must reject the method in which the federation is being treated because a federal sovereign government, the government of this federative republic, cannot be treated in this way and I trust that in the future this will no longer happen. I would add that both I and other colleagues of mine accepted the conclusions of Trencianske Teplice [trigovernmental talks]. I told Prime Minister Meciar this personally on 20 August, so I understand Trencianski Teplice as a political reality, and I am prepared to transfer powers to Slovakia. You can criticize us for the fact that we still have these dying irrationalities, these large institutions. We are prepared in this respect, of course, to move more quickly, but not under the pressure which we have witnessed today.

[Announcer] Although this is more or less an internal political affair, I am interested to know whether you think these developments will complicate or have some impact on our international relations?

[Klaus] Well, here we must say yes, because at the moment when Mr. Meciar's interview suddenly began to be broadcast, we were just winding up several weeks of immensely complex talks with the IMF on our reform program and the essential financial assistance we need from the IMF and from the international financial community in general. It is really no play on words if I say that at the moment when my colleague Mr. Dlouhy and I were clinking glasses in our office and fetching a sigh of relief that we had clinched this deal—and I must say we were really clinking glasses with the IMF mission in working time—well, just at that moment Mr. Meciar's interview began to go out on our radio. I must say that the mission head asked us what this all meant. This makes our position very complicated.

[Dlouhy] I can add that on Monday [3 December] I was told by leading EC officials in Brussels that it is precisely thanks to these agreements with the IMF that good prospects are opening up right now for financial support for Czechoslovakia at the EC level, and that from this point of view we are in the run-up to an important session in Rome on 14-15 December—as you know a specific sum has already been leaked to the press—and it is clear that even something like today's affair definitely does nothing to boost Czechoslovakia's prospects at the session on the 14th and 15th.

[Announcer] Thank you for those words.

Havel 'Watching' Current Political Talks

LD0712204790 Prague CTK in English 1951 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Prague Dec 7 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel is "watching carefully the development of the situation and course of the political talks at various levels all day long," presidential spokesman Michael Zantovsky told CTK today.

"At the moment he is consulting with his fellow workers which of the several variants of further action to choose. He is concerned over some signals testifying to an inadmissible pressure on deputies of the supreme legislative body and attacks on members of the Federal Government. He appeals to all politicians to act in accordance with reason and to be responsible to the

maximum. He is resolved to take action at the moment when it is necessary," Zantovsky said in reference to Havel's stand on the present political situation in the country.

Meciar, Miklosko, Dubcek Hold Press Conference

LD0712213990 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1753 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Interview with Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar, Slovak National Council Chairman Frantisek Miklosko and Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek by reporters following the meeting of the presidia of the Slovak National Council and the Slovak Government in Bratislava on 7 December—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter Bielikova] Mr. Prime Minister, the talks are over. Can you tell us about the conclusions, if any?

[Meciar] The talks were very important because we prepared power-sharing bills which we submitted to the Federal Assembly. The way of discussing them and the present results from the committees might cause apprehension in that they may not be adopted. Amendments could be suggested which would in fact contradict the contents. If that is the case, the government could not fulfill its policy statement and the activity which we planned for the entire election period would be ruined. That is why we discussed possibilities of approach to these bills so that they are adopted. We think that the version proposed by the Slovak National Council is acceptable. It is not a result of our decision but of the political agreement of all of the parties concerned. We regret that some of the parties that adopted the version together with us are now departing from it and stipulate more and more demands for strengthening centralism.

We also encountered a counter-conception or anticonception. It envisions the creation of a unitarian state on a federal principle which essentially assumes the extinction of the republics. [Words indistinct] have completely different conceptions and think that these questions should be discussed in the Federal Assembly.

Second we discussed what we should do in the event this [bill] is not passed. We are considering another variant. We would be sad, but we would know how to react.

Third, we discussed the question of why some members of the Federal Government are not considered to be sufficiently federalist in our country. [passage omitted]

We also discussed some aspects of anti-Slovak propaganda in the Czech Republic. We expressed our dismay over the fact that, unfortunately, the press brings untrue information [words indistinct] I am glad that our Slovak editors [words indistinct]. Please try to be factual, [words indistinct] I therefore ask the chairman of the Slovak National Council, Mr. Miklosko, to state his point of view.

[Miklosko] The Presidium of the Slovak National Council fully supports everything that has taken place on the Slovak National Council floor. Regarding what the Slovak National Council adopted, what it put forward as a constitutional bill to the Federal Assembly, I would like to say that it was the result of the agreements of the three governments.

The Slovak National Council adopted precisely—or with very small changes—what was agreed on in this agreement. There is a very serious situation now in the Federal Assembly. I would like to stress this because the Federal Assembly now—and with a decision it is going to make on Tuesday—assumes responsibility for all future developments in the Czechoslovak Republic.

For us, the Slovak National Council, the postponement of the deliberations is unacceptable because this year is about to end and it is necessary to prepare budgets. It is necessary to begin to live according to these new power-sharing laws.

With the hope that an agreement will be reached after all, we are leaving on Monday or Tuesday for Prague.

[Meciar] I would like to add one thing: Regardless of how complicated our talks were we always subscribed to the idea of a common state, the common Czech and Slovak Federative Republic. Regardless of how much of a crisis character the talks are to assume, we are going to be prepared anytime to conclude an agreement with the Government of the Czech Republic and the Czech National Council about the state treaty and about remaining in the common association, in a common federative state.

We that certain crisis moments can occur but our intention to live in a common state does not need to be doubted. What is at issue is only what is going to be the set-up of this state and what are going to be its principles, which regulations are going to be applied in it, in order that it offers a common home both to the Czechs and the Slovaks, in order to remove everything that divides us and brings doubts among us. To enable us to cook in [our common] house, we want to share in two kitchens but under one roof for many years to come.

[Reporter] I would like to ask you one more question, please. What, in your personal view, are the reasons that the final result of what was achieved in the difficult tripartite compromise agreements involving three governments is disappearing?

[Meciar] It is linked to a certain political development in the Czech Republic which moves to the right a lot. The trends of unitarism are being strengthened quite a lot, as well as the trends of the right-wing which has a different way of thinking. National feeling is said to be degrading—but in fact one has to belong to some kind of a community to speak about the republic founded on the national principle is something they also consider not to be good. To speak about the federation at all is something they also consider to be an element of instability.

This is a certain way of thinking of a political group which is as part of Civic Forum and which since the very beginning has cast doubt on this document. You know well enough that almost even before we reached home much fuss was being made about it.

The only thing which is changing is that this groups becomes better organized and politically stronger and gains more influence. We have to take it into account as an existing factor in the life of Czech society.

[Miklosko] Nor do we exclude the possibility that certain groups will attempt to destabilize the two national governments in order to strengthen the idea of a state governed from the center.

[Reporter] One more question please. The federal prime minister was a candidate of Public Against Violence [VPN]. To what extent is VPN capable of influencing his stand and views or to do something more than just influence them?

[Meciar] VPN is not a party which will take resolutions which would be binding for its members. VPN has its program which sets up the regulations and the framework within which we can move. This kind of freedom applies also to me, although so far I have been criticized several times for moving within the framework of these regulations, but I always welcome criticism.

In this particular case we think that the prime minister of the Federal Government overstepped the boundaries of this program in several important points and we will recommend that VPN Council should discuss his case specifically at its session tomorrow. Perhaps he will succeed in defending himself or maybe he will convince them about the opposite, but I hardly think so.

[Reporter] Do you see a possibility that you will accept further compromises?

[Meciar] What compromises? What else can we give up? Simply, already for the third time, we do not ask for anything in order to reach some kind of agreement and in order to fulfill what we promised each other. Slovakia does not want anything else. Those compromises which were proposed there, such as changes of wording and so on, are not in essence a political problem. Nevertheless, wherever it aims at centralism and power sharing, it goes against the purpose of economic reform.

We said that one of the aims of these changes will be to reduce state intervention in the economy, that we stop intervening in all that enterprises are doing, that normal companies, associations, and enterprises will be formed which are going to be involved in entrepreneurship. And all of sudden somebody says that those enterprises which are to be active in the field of oil and gas industry have to be federation-owned, that other enterprises have to be so and so. For God's sake, this is contrary to everything that was said. We do not want the ministries to organize economic life but state administration. Economic life should be left to those who form it.

We would gladly give ground again if there is still something to give up. Nevertheless, to take yet another step back is either taking a step into the abyss or simply stating that all our work during this half year was pointless. Everything is aiming at centralization and in essence it will destroy the purpose and content of our efforts, of what we considered to be a just state, a just federation for both republics. We would deny it doing so. There is nowhere else to go for us.

[Reporter] We saw Mr. Dubcek in the parliament. Is his visit today linked in some way to your deliberations?

[Miklosko] Mr. Dubcek is still in my study. Mr. Dubcek is very worried. He arrived from Prague this morning because the fate of the republic and the fate of the Federal Assembly is very much on his heart. I am just going to brief him now.

[Reporter] Did you agree also on the third variant in the event the Federal Assembly does not adopt [the bill]? What steps do you assume the Slovak Goverment is going to take in this event?

[Meciar] Excuse me, but if I tell you about them now then Prague will say again that we are blackmailing and bullying. We do not want to blackmail. Even in our alternative variants we consider staying in the state association—although certain constitutional crises would take place.

[Miklosko] The prime minister has answered your question.

[Reporter] Mr. Chairman, welcome to Bratislava. We would like to ask you what brought you to Bratislava at a time when the Presidiums of the Slovak National Council and the Slovak Government are in session?

[Dubcek] First, it was not in the time of the deliberations because I arrived before they began their deliberations. I am not directly involved in the deliberations of the bodies. Those times have gone but it is a natural thing between the people who think in roughly the same way and have common interests—as my interest is the same as the interest of Mr. Meciar and Mr. Miklosko because what is the issue in this case is to tackle those problems which are linked to the manifestation of the identity of the Slovak nation. And, of course, it is also the issue [words indistinct] what binds us together in the federation.

In these key fundamental problems we indeed share the same aim and we strive to reach this aim jointly.

[Reporter] Mr. Chairman, Mr. Meciar, and Mr. Miklosko said that the Slovak representation was unable to accept further compromises regarding power sharing and did not have anywhere else to go. What do you think about this?

[Dubcek] I believe that commonsense will win, that in this case the interest of the Czech and the Slovak nations regarding the unified federative state will prevail. If I

stop believing it—everything can happen and all sorts of things do happen. Nevertheless, one relies on commonsense. And usually, in crisis situations, commonsense always prevails.

The Federal Assembly is not united and I would say there is substantial disintegration there, from the point of view of stands on internal issues. Therefore, in my view it is impossible to reach a general consensus—differences exist and will exist. What matters is that the majority takes a stand which corresponds to the interest of the two nations. And this is the level about which probably also Mr. Meciar spoke—the level of economic and constitutional interests which we jointly formulated yesterday.

Calfa Gives Address on Power Sharing Dispute

LD0712221990 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Statement by Prime Minister Marian Calfa; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] We are already accustomed to the fact that after the Friday television newsreel we can hear a 10-minute address by the prime minister. Today, we will make an exception and instead [of the usual address] we will bring you a statement by Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa.

[Calfa, in Slovak] Dear fellow citizens, I listened to the addresses on the radio by the prime ministers of the republics, Mr. Pithart and Mr. Meciar. They both expressed their views on the discussion of the bill on power sharing by the Federal Assembly. You heard yourselves how much their speeches differed from each other. Let us make it clear what this is all about.

Both the Slovak Government and the Slovak National Council approved a draft amendment to the constitutional law on the Czechoslovak federation, that law whose formulation had been so painful and took such a long time. This law has also been approved by the Federal Government without making any changes to it. Thus, it makes it very difficult trying to find any problems here. The only changes were made by the Czech National Council. Some members of the Federal Government will take part in the discussions on the power-sharing bill in the Federal Assembly's committees, and there they will advocate the Federal Government's position, that is, the position which corresponds to that of the Slovak Government. No conflict can arise from this either.

Two questions arise from what I have said. First, what are the reasons and motives of Mr. Meciar's attack on my person and other members of the Federal Government in connection with the power-sharing bill, when while discussing it we had come to a complete agreement. At the same time, I am asking why Mr. Meciar behaves as if the Federal Government had not approved the bills on power sharing. What then helps approve this bill, which is described by the Slovak side as vital and seen as such by us as well? Is it the unity between the Federal and Slovak Governments over this issue, or an atmosphere of conflicts and ultimata? I cannot get rid of the feeling that on one hand there exist worries from a possible crisis, and on the other hand such a crisis is being intensively created by this atmosphere. The deputies of the Federal Assembly are mere humans as well.

Mr. Meciar also wants to resolve the whole situation on the Public Against Violence [VPN] platform. I have nothing against it, although I have to say that up to this day I have not felt such a critical pressure by VPN. On the contrary, I am experiencing a unity between me and the voters and the deputies of my constituency and also other deputies of the VPN movement. There exists no statement by VPN on which Mr. Meciar could build his conclusions.

Dear fellow citizens, we are entering a very difficult period in which we can succeed only if our two imperfect economies closely cooperate. As opinion polls show, and as would without any doubt also emerge from a referendum, our people hold this view, and also our most important foreign partners see the issue in this way. If somebody tells you something else, then he is not telling you the truth. He who casts doubts on this idea, threatens our future. Thank you.

Pithart Warns of Federation's Disintegration

LD0712221990 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Address by Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart to television audience summarizing his speech at the Czech National Council in Prague on 7 December—live or recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow citizens, as I speak, the destiny of the Czechoslovak federation is in the balance. The Czech-Slovak or Federal-Slovak crisis, which has been simmering for several months in a concealed form, has not fully come to a head. This indicates the nonexistent solidity of mutual relations. But this, however, is nothing new. These relations have always been like this, but only in grave situations has this become clear. This crisis was apparent back in the first months of this year. Even though the public did not fully realize it, it was clear that the bone of contention was the existing centralist notion of the common federation, and that this notion would, in time, have to be changed.

On behalf of the Czech Government of the time, and of the present one, I can state that it was aware of the seriousness of relations toward Slovakia from the very outset. While the Czech Government alone held talks with the Slovak side, it was not forced into any concession, and despite this these talks took the form of a calm dialogue.

However, as soon as the talks moved into another arena, they turned into a sharp controversy which has come to a head in the present crisis.

Let me say a few words about the essence of this crisis. The Slovak national interest finds itself in conflict with the economic reform which is absolutely essential for our continued existence. We have no other scenario for the reform than this one. The most appropriate setting for the smooth, if at all possible, course of the reform is a unitary [unitarni] state administered from a single center. That is an absolute truth. However, this notion of a common state is totally unacceptable for Slovakia, and this, too, is an absolute truth. Therefore, we are seeing a head-on conflict between the needs of the Czechoslovak economy and the national interest of most of the Slovaks.

On the Czech side, doubts are sometimes raised whether current Slovak political officials represent the true will of the Slovak nation. In my experience, which is borne out by the meeting I took part in yesterday, this is, indeed, the case. Any further calling into question of this fact will make any further talks more difficult. What I can say about Slovak political representatives, however, is that their attitude is not anti-Czech, but anti-federal. This is because the Slovaks have become over-sensitive to the existing shape of the Federation, but not to any form of coexistence with the Czechs.

Now the Slovak side has issued an ultimatum. It is demanding that the power-sharing bill be passed in the version agreed in the Hrzan Palace. It takes no account of the amended version put forward by the Czech National Council, nor of the purpose of the existence of the Federal Assembly. If the power-sharing bill is not passed in the version they are demanding, the Slovak political representatives intend to declare supremacy of the laws of the Slovak Republic over the laws of the Czechoslovak federation. This would be a serious step towards the disintegration of the common state.

At the same time, however, the Slovak Government declares that even after such a step it is prepared to hold talks on some sort of future form of Czech-Slovak coexistence.

We are entering an uncertain situation. I would like to point out that not only are events of the last few days in our country being played out before the eyes of Europe, it will also agitate Europe in a way, or at least Central Europe. At the same time, I want to point out an important circumstance: the disintegration of Czechoslovakia would be an act which would markedly change the postwar political and geographical map of Europe, and an unpleasant reminder of the situation before the end of the World War II. For the time being, I am merely describing the situation and looking for connections. I am not making judgements about the Czech, Slovak or Federal Governments, nor am I making judgements about the activity of the media, or the attitude of the Czech or Slovak public. What I am trying to do is ensure that we all understand, above all, the present situation.

I think this crisis had to come. There are only two options: Either we emerge from this crisis cleansed, or the federation will disintegrate. It would disintegrate not only for the Czechs and Slovaks, but for the whole of Europe too.

I would like to add that the Czech Government is prepared for any eventuality, and that it will pull out all the stops to make sure that the operation of our socio-economic mechanism is maintained.

Pithart Seeks Compromise on Power Sharing

LD0812032490 Prague Television Service in Czech 2125 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Studio interview with Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart by unidentified announcer—live]

[Text] [Announcer] Let me now welcome in our studio Czech Prime Minister Petr Pithart. Good evening. We also invited Mr. Meciar to come to the studio in Bratislava, but unfortunately without any success.

[Pithart] May I? As far as I know, Mr. Meciar is at his son's school graduation ceremony. So, if you agree, we can forgive him for not being with us at this moment.

[Announcer] Of course. You made a speech on the Television Newsreel. I would like to ask you one thing. Time flies very quickly now. Has anything changed since 1700 [1600 GMT] when you were recording your speech?

[Pithart] Shortly after that the Czech National Council, after a long, very long discussion on the deputies' clubs, took a position on the situation, giving its full support to the government of the Czech Republic, and I am very pleased to say this. It has approved the steps taken by the government so far and at the same time it has set up a very clear directive according to which no other talks are admissible except those between the three governments, between the three legislative bodies. For us this is nothing new. We have always stressed the fact that it was necessary to hold tripartite talks. This constitution is valid.

[Announcer] In your opinion, what is at this moment the main reason that the situation has reached this culminating point?

[Pithart] As usual, it is the time. The end of the year is approaching. It is necessary to discuss and approve budgets. Powerful banking institutions are looking over our shoulder, seeing how we do it, whether we are playing fair. And budgets cannot be approved before this damned bill on power sharing is decided. This word annoys me a lot and I have the impression that the public is bored stiff with this. But in reality we are dealing with very simple, and at the same time, important matters. The thing is to share responsibility, like we share the

work in a household; to decide who is going to do what. We can find the same thing in the dispute between the republics and the federation. The dispute is not exactly the same as I have just described it, but it can appear like that. Well, to be able to start discussing the budgets we have to agree on what is whose task in the household, and there is not enough time for that. As we have seen, the Slovak side is already very impatient, but we would also be very glad if the whole thing were over and done with.

[Announcer] On the outside it looks like the main problems are the amendments approved by the Czech National Council.

[Pithart] The problem is not only the amendments. The thing is that the Slovak side is worried that the Federal Assembly will approve further changes and that it will be simply too much for them. To a certain extent I can understand this, but to a certain extent I do not understand it at all. I understand it to the extent that today I have sort of taken stock of everything that the Slovak side has proposed and what has fallen under the table—what quite simply we have not agreed on. There was a lot. It was a list of 10 requirements. So I understand that they have the impression that they cannot make any more compromises. On the other hand it seems very unfortunate to me when somebody says that the Federal Assembly must approve the proposals in the form that they were approved by the Slovak National Council, without any changes.

In politics there should always be room for maneuvering. Let us say, for instance, that they would mind major changes. This is all ok since we can still hold long discussions over what are major changes and what are minor ones. But if we take a tough stance, then there is no space left for any compromise. And I firmly hope that the Slovak political representation will change its mind a bit.

[Announcer] Today we have witnessed some very severe statements from both sides. Do you think that the Civic Forum-Public Against Violence [OF-VPN] government coalition can still be justified?

[Pithart] Of course it can. I even think that in the future it might be necessary to look for some forms of organizational linkage between them. This is one of the guarantees of the existence of a common state, one of the important guarantees. In the meantime, VPN and OF will without a doubt will go through a number of changes, but this should be a sort of a goal—to link them in some way.

[Announcer] From the previous statements we heard it seems to me at times that the problem is not a conflict of concepts, a conflict of strategies, but rather a like or dislike of certain people.

[Pithart] Well, I hope that my dear colleagues will not be angry with me. I too did not have the best impression of it. I am learning all the time what politics really is, what a drudgery politics is. At first sight it is those 12- or 14-hour days, losing your privacy. But recently I have been realizing more and more clearly that the most important thing, the most difficult thing that you have to put up with is that you have to put your personal feelings aside. These things are really too serious. And what we have seen here a moment ago gives us the impression that personal aversions and malice were starting to play a much too important role. This is wrong since it conceals the essence of a problem. This essence is obvious from the very beginning, but unfortunately it has not been defined for a very long time. The other question is that, when we define it, whether we will also be able to come to terms with it.

[Announcer] The more so it is necessary, in my opinion, to talk about priorities; what is the most important thing at this moment? For the Czech Republic, or for its citizens rather, it is probably economic reform. What is the most important thing for Slovakia?

[Pithart] Slovakia simply perceives these things a bit differently. They perceive everything linked to their national identity, to the affirmation of their national existence, including the external manifestations of their national existence, as a much more important issue than how we perceive it.

And we will simply have to respect this or we will have to choose other Slovaks and then they will perhaps choose other Czechs. The difference is really perceivable.

It used to be said for a long time that these conflicts stopped economic reforms. It is not so. In policymaking you have to respect your partner and you have to deal with him as he is. If we fail to do this, then we simply cannot embark on economic reform. Unfortunately I have the feeling that many politicians in Prague, both on the Czech and federal level, are not willing to realize this fundamental difference and they would really prefer to choose other Slovaks.

[Announcer] We have three governments and this is causing troubles. Do you not think that it would be simpler to have only one government?

[Pithart] One or four or five—anything is better than two national governments, I can assure you. Our two-part federation is without analogy in the world. We are a unique example and we cannot learn from anybody. It is relationship in which you cannot take a vote, because when a stance is taken by one it is in fact a veto of the other's stance. Nevertheless, I do not think that this issue is topical now, though a federal setup consisting of more subjects has also been considered. I would prefer not to bring this up for the time being.

[Announcer] Do you think that the whole complex of these problems could be solved by a referendum?

[Pithart] No, I do not think so, though I think that it would be a good thing to have a law, a constitutional law, on a referendum. Nevertheless, the question is not

whether we want the federation or not. This issue is the federation's setup. And this question is too complicated to be decided by any kind of referendum. In a referendum, in essence you answer either yes or no. And this is clear: Our public—both the Czech and Slovak public—favors a common state. And this is binding for us.

[Announcer] During this weekend the OF Assembly will take place in Olomouc. To what extent do you think this conflict will have an impact on its deliberations?

[Pithart] Of course it was not originally on the agenda, but in politics new points of discussion emerge constantly. One is always being taken by surprise. Probably those present at the session there—it is not an assembly, there will be no decisions made there and no voting will take place—will adopt some kind of stance on the issue. In fact I cannot imagine them not doing so. What is the main issue there is that the OF is searching for a new face, searching for a firmer organizational structure, and perhaps searching for its place on the scale from the right to the left or from the left to the right; it depends how you look at it. It will probably be the main subject of the deliberations and it is this discussion that is very necessary. It is high time the OF gives the impression of being a bit amorphous; until recently it gave this impression. Now it has assumed a bit more clearly defined form. Nevertheless, it is still not defined clearly enough—given the responsibility which it has, it is still not enough.

[Announcer] Thank you for coming.

Dubcek Calls for Preserving Federation

LD0812040390 Prague Television Service in Slovak 2125 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Excerpt] [Announcer] As we have already informed you, the Slovak National Council Presidia and Slovak Republic Government have held a joint session. Shortly after the end of today's session Alexander Dubcek, CSFR Federal Assembly chairman, met with journalists. We have chosen some remarks from this unplanned interview:

[Dubcek] A federative state setup provides better than anything else for the future prospects of the Slovak nation, the Czech nation, the individual republics, their strength, successful economic prosperity, their place in Europe, as well as in the world. I can tell you this because I have seen a bit of the world and acquired a lot of experience, and I know without a shadow of a doubt that we should preserve this unified federative setup of the state and we should not weaken it, though of course powers will be delegated toward the lower levels. We should preserve this form of our statehood and the extremes currently emerging should not prevail as they are not in harmony with the view of the decisive majority of the nation, both the Slovak and Czech nation.

The thing is that what is alive and what is capable of life will survive, and what is not capable of life of course will not survive.

I strive to keep alive what I believe is capable of life—what benefits the Slovak nation and the Czech nation from the point of view of their way to join Europe, to find its place there. That is why I unequivocally support this trend of the constitutional setup. This cannot and will not harm the Slovak or Czech nation. It is simply our life experience. These are also experiences on the international scene and I think they also provide an answer for the future. [passage omitted]

Assembly Debates Bill on Federation Powers

LD1012122390 Prague CTK in English 1026 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Prague Nov 10 (CTK)—Controversies which have arisen in the last week over the bill on the Czechoslovak federation, to be debated by the Federal Assembly (parliament) from today, involve several points in which the Slovak Government wants to push through provisions agreed by the federal and the two republics'—Czech and Slovak—Governments in November.

They include primarily demands concerning the central banking system and especially the bank of issue.

At the beginning the Slovak state representation wanted three banks of issue, Federal, Czech and Slovak. Then it accepted a compromise that the Central Bank would be governed by a board consisting of the same number of Slovak and Czech citizens each (Slovak population accounts for one-third of the Czechoslovak population as a whole). It also demands that the governors be in office for one year, and that Czechs and Slovaks alternate for the one-year terms. The Czech parliament did not accept this alternation and dropped this provision from the draft. The Slovak representation insists that this demand be enacted.

Disputes also concern control of the postal service and of the Czechoslovak section of the international pipelines carrying gas and oil from the Soviet Union to Western and Southern Europe. The Slovak representation wants the postal service to be run by the Czech and Slovak Governments and the federal postal system to be abolished. The controversy over the oil and gas pipelines has even become personal when Federal Economics Minister Vladimir Dlouhy, demanding that the pipelines be run on the federal level, accused Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar of populism.

Another disputed issue is whether the policy on the nationalities and ethnic groups will be decided by the federation or whether it will be in the jurisdiction of the Czech and Slovak Republics. Some representatives especially of the Hungarian minority (about 600,000 in southern and eastern Slovakia) demand that nationality

issues remain in federal jurisdiction because some members of the minorities (Polish, German, Romanian and Hungarian) live in both republics. The Slovak representation wants the republics to have authority over this sphere.

Jurisdiction concerning the churches is not subject of dispute. Last week the Czechoslovak Ecumenical Council of Churches demanded that matters concerning religion, which are exclusively transnational, be within the powers of the federation.

Havel Meets Dubcek, Briefs Press on Speech

LD1012145590 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1400 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] After meeting Federal Assembly Chairman Alexander Dubcek and some other officials of the Federal Assembly, President Vaclav Havel told Czechoslovak Press Agency correspondents that it was definitively not the intention of his speech to delay deliberations about the power-sharing bill. He went on to say that at the meeting they had discussed procedural questions about when parliament should deliberate, and what should be the order of its agenda. I assured Federal Assembly officials, Vaclav Havel said, that the purpose of my speech was to foresee and prepare constitutional mechanisms for a case of a conflict, constitutional crisis.

Regarding the Slovak representatives view of the proposals put forward by the head of our state, Michael Zantovsky, the president's press spokesman, remarked: Fedor Gal was present at the meeting and he checked with the coordinating center of Public Against Violence [VPN] in Bratislava about its stance, and spoke about the necessity of consultations within the club of VPN deputies.

Havel's Spokesman Views Constitutional Crisis

LD1012161490 Prague CTK in English 1459 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Prague Dec 10 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel is of the opinion that a break-up of the Czechoslovak federal state, "whether at the Czech or the Slovak initiative, would be a catastrophe both for the Czechs and the Slovaks", presidential spokesman Michael Zantovsky said here today.

Commenting on the present political crisis in Czechoslovakia he said that it arose after Slovak politicians announced last week they would declare the superiority of Slovak laws over those of the federation in case the bill on the division of powers between the Czechoslovak federation and the Czech and Slovak Republics is not approved by the Federal Assembly (parliament) this week in the form agreed by the three governments' representatives in Prague. Slovak Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar criticized Czechoslovak Prime Minister Marian Calfa, Federal Economics Minister Vladimir Dlouhy, Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus and Minister-Chairman of the Federal Committee for the Environment Josef Vavrousek that they defend insufficiently Slovakia's interest in the Federal Government.

Referring to Havel's speech on the problem of the powers in the Federal Assembly today, he said that Havel watched the development of the situation. At a point when personal attacks and hints of pressure on the freely elected Federal Assembly appeared he thought the situation was so grave that he decided to address the parliament.

Havel said on radio yesterday that if the situation requires it he will not go to Spain and Portugal but that this would, however, harm Czechoslovakia's international prestige. "He will, of course, consider the whole situation yet today", Zantovsky said, in reference to Havel's visit to Spain on December 11-12 and to Portugal on December 13-14 and to the present crisis at home.

Defense Minister Views Budget, Soviet Relations

LD0812112190 Budapest MTI in English 1014 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 7 (MTI)—Although the defence budget envisaged by the government for next year is somewhat larger than it was in 1990, it does not make it possible to retain the current standard of the Army, Lajos Fur, minister of defence, said in Friday's "NEPSZABADSAG". "We have two options: To reduce either the indispensable purchases or the staff," the minister said.

Since Soviet military equipment will only be available against payment in dollar from January 1, 1991, it will cost three times as much as previous. "We are looking for the ways of austerity. Since the military technology of East Germany is dismantled because of its incompatibility with the arms system of the united Germany, we would like to get cheap, or even free, access to what we need from the one-time GDR arsenal...."

Concerning bilateral military relations with the Soviet Union, Fur said:

"We indicated through several channels that we would like to sign an agreement, or even a treaty, on military cooperation with the Soviet Union. Originally, we planned to discuss the idea during the session of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty. Since the session was postponed, we cannot yet speak about any concrete achievement. In Paris, Antall and Gorbachev agreed in principle on concluding a bilateral agreement, in which military cooperation could also be involved," Fur said.

An agreement of this kind would make it possible for some Hungarian officers to be trained in the Soviet Union. "There are some special fields which we could not replace at the moment. Cooperation in the training of officers could be established with others, even with the Romanians. This would be important not only from the military aspect, it would dispel suspicion and build confidence as well," Lajos Fur said.

Antall Discusses Planned Reshuffle, USSR Visit

LD1012003390 Budapest MTI in English 1957 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 9 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall spoke about his plans for a government reshuffle and his forthcoming official visit to Moscow next February in an interview aired by, A Hat [The Week], a political magazine of the Hungarian television, on Sunday.

In reply to a question on the government reshuffle, Antall said: The issue of a government reshuffle had to be put on the agenda ahead of schedule because of some external circumstances, including the taxi drivers, blockade, and some differences of views on economic policy within the government... I would have preferred reshuffling the government after the parliamentary debate over the central budget.

Asked whether a government where expertise is the criterion for selection would be required in this crucial situation, Antall said: Those who demand for a government like that demand for other politica lines, or they wish to see such people in the government whom they would find suitable from another political consideration.

Concerning his forthcoming official visit to Moscow next February, Antall said:

I hope my visit will also contribute to improving our relations with the Soviet Union even in the economic and commercial fields. In the course of these negotiations, we wish to sign a new agreement, since the former one was concluded back in 1967, under entirely different circumstances. We seek to sign an agreement with the Soviet Union which will be similar to any agreement concluded with any other sovereign country, even with a Western one. We wish to sign a political agreement which promotes stability and serves the political and economic interests of the country.

Soviet President Invites Antall to Moscow

LD0812223490 Budapest MTI in English 1612 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 8 (MTI)—Ivan Aboimov, Soviet ambassador to Hungary, visited Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall in his office on Saturday, and presented to him an invitation by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for an official visit to Moscow in February 1991, the prime minister's office announced.

On the occasion of the visit, the Soviet Union and Hungary are to sign a political agreement on the new principles of bilateral relations.

Antall, SFRY's Markovic Hold Talks in Budapest

LD0712211690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1758 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 7 (TANJUG)—The Hungarian Government sees its own interest in the stability of its southern neighbour, and in that respect, Yugoslavia can rely on its full understanding, Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall said in today's talks with Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic.

Markovic last night began a one-day official visit to Hungary.

The two prime ministers agreed that good-neighbour relations are part of the political priorities of their two countries, so that it is only natural for the two countries to expand cooperation with mutual confidence, as part of the European trends.

This also pertains to economic ties, and it was agreed that the mixed committee for economic cooperation already in January consider concrete possibilities for

their strengthening, with the ambition soon to raise the value of trade from the current 668 million dollars annually to one billion.

In the three-hour talks, which were held first behind closed doors and then among a circle of close collaborators, Prime Minister Antall wished closer to explain his earlier statement that he wishes to be the prime minister of all Hungarians. He said that this was in no way, as misinterpreted in some places, an attampt to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries.

Antall said that he had the spiritual and cultural linking of Hungarians in mind, and that this was why Budapest, in his words, viewed with sympathies such connections of the members of the Yugoslav nations living in Hungary with the main body of their people.

Prime Minister Markovic said that Yugoslavia was carefully following the problem of minorities, since they are present in all neighbouring countries, and pointed out that the development of democracy and human freedoms were making room for their emancipation. Markovic said that all such questions, if there are any, from the war and postwar period should be resolved in these frameworks. The Hungarian side opened some of these questions in today's talks.

Pointing out Yugoslavia's advantages in the range and depth of its reforms, Antall mentioned as a special advantage the large number of experts capable of working in a market economy, while Hungary has yet to resolve that problem.

In the part of the talks pertaining to foreign policy, efforts of the two countries to make the closest possible links with European integrations were assessed as evident. Nevertheless, the paths they have chosen are not quite the same, since Hungary is still formally a member of the Warsaw Treaty and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA).

Leaders Hold News Conference

LD0712233690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1933 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—We have similarities with Hungary on the road to the profound reforms in Yugoslavia. There should be broader collaboration in the future, so this difficult process might be carried out as easily as possible and at the smallest possible cost—this was stated by SFRY Presidency President Ante Markovic at a news conference in Budapest today at the end of his one-day working visit to Hungary. Stressing that Yugoslavia has already covered a significant part of the road to the overall transformation of economic and political life, Ante Markovic said that the Yugoslav experience could be of use to other former socialist countries as well.

Prime Minister Jozsef Antall agreed with Markovic's assessment, stressing that mutual relations should be strengthened through dialogue and cooperation, something that would also be an insurance policy in the event of possible threats of destabilization in the area of Eastern Europe. There should be open discussions on everything; furthermore, if we have some legacies from the past, they should be resolved in the same way as the Germans and French have done with their past, Prime Minister Antall said.

In this connection, he also referred to the wartime tragedy in Novi Sad in 1942 but also to some "atrocities" against Hungarians in 1944 and 1945. We need cooperation in all fields today, Prime Minister Antall said. He continued by saying that a contribution will be made to this by his visit to Yugoslavia, most probably in March of next year.

Replying to a question on the position of the Hungarian minority in Yugoslavia, Ante Markovic said that it has been organized for a long time now in all spheres. He also said that the Hungarian minority had recently also been politically organized—prior to the elections—in a coalition with some progressive forces in Yugoslavia.

Prime Minister Antall assessed that Yugoslavia and Hungary can discuss everything openly, particularly the respect of the rights of the minorities. Furthermore, he expressed the conviction that these right would continue to be respected in Yugoslavia.

Ante Markovic responded to a question from a Hungarian journalist as to how he assesses the statement by General Kadijevic that the Yugoslav Army will not permit the breakup of the socialist system in Yugoslavia, saying that Kadijevic's statement was connected with appearances of armed units in Yugoslavia outside legal structures. In the legal system of a country—including that of Yugoslavia—an army and police force exist, and no one can take over their role and tasks, Markovic said. Regarding someone's political opinion—regardless of which personality is being referred to—it can be freely expressed as long as it is accompanied by respect for the rules of parliamentarianism, he said.

Responding to a journalist's question as to what the two prime ministers think about the forthcoming large-scale wave of migration from the USSR, Markovic assessed that Yugoslavia is already confronting this problem now as a country with a relative wealth of goods on the market and that it will have to take some measures in order to mitigate this pressure, if it occurs. Nevertheless, he added, the economic problems of individual countries should be resolved internally rather than externally.

During the afternoon Ante Markovic also had recorded meetings with Hungarian President Arpad Goncz and National Assembly Speaker Gyorgy Szabad. Prior to his departure from Budapest, the Federal Executive Council president had talks with representatives of the Serbian, Croatian, and Slovene minorities in Hungary, as well as with Yugoslav businessmen.

At the same time Milovoje Maksic, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, had separate talks in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where he was also received by Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky. Nazmi Mustafa, federal secretary for foreign trade, had talks in the Hungarian Ministry for Economic Relations with Foreign Countries on the strengthening of economic relations between the two countries.

It is the assessment of the Yugoslav side that today's talks in Budapest were concrete—one might say businesslike and pragmatic—and imbued with openness and the conviction that we are reliant on each other. This atmosphere, it is considered, also realistically reflects the changes in the two countries, something that also characterizes the way in which they communicated today.

Joint Polish Agreement on Convertible Accounting

LD0812150990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1400 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Hungary and Poland concluded an agreement that, as of next year, the bilateral exchange of goods will be accounted for in convertible currency.

According to the agreement signed in Budapest—on the basis of the still- valid ruble agreements—the enterprises concerned can still deliver, with unchanged conditions, until the end of January. Until the end of May, the Polish party will compensate with products for its debt of 25-30 million rubles which is forming on the basis of this year's turnover. If Poland does not fullfill its obligations by then, the debt will be changed to convertible currancy. Until the end of September, Poland can continue to pay this debt in products.

Foreign Minister on Relations With Romania

LD0912125590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0730 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by Jozsef P. Szabo; place and date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Szabo] It was shocking news that it is claimed that they would have liked to have met Arpad Goncz in Bucharest on 9 December. What is really shocking is that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs did not know about this, at least not officially. How does the Hungarian foreign minister see it, what can be done at the moment, and what is he going to do now in the interest of Hungarian-Romanian relations? What concrete steps do you have in mind?

[Jeszenszky] [passage omitted] The Hungarian side has always been open and ready for negotiations, while emphasizing that the negotiations should not take place in a l'art pour l'art manner. We should make progress in those issues which have been on the agenda for years. To put it more concretely, Gyula Horn took fresh proposals with him during his visit in January. The Romanian side even made concrete promises for the acceptance of these proposals. In other words, we justifiably call the Romanians to account; they should fulfill these promises. It is not enough to say that they talk to us with pleasure, that they want a better relationship; the precondition of that better relationship is that a series of issues should be resolved. [passage omitted]

Regarding the presidential summit urged formally by the Romanian side, I must say that, regretfully, I feel that it appears to be rather a propaganda maneuver. It serves as a backing for the Romanian integration into the Western world rather than a genuine willingness for the improvement of relations.

[Szabo] In the absence of Geza Jeszenszky, a Pentagonal consultation took place in Rome where, perhaps, the principle issued concerned the question of refugees. We hear alarming news that if borders with the Soviet Union are opened beginning in January, then these refugees could flood us, primarily in Hungary. How do you see this problem?

[Jeszenszky] I do not like to overdramatize issues. I do not believe that we could be threatened by such a flood starting in January. First of all, border crossings have preconditions. Such preconditions may be visa requirements, or control of a sufficient financial sum so that tourists arriving without any funds or who run out of funds are handled. We can and must prevent this, because we are not equipped to receive a large crowd of visitors who may arrive without money, especially not if they want to stay here. [passage omitted]

Krzysztof Skubisewski [Polish minister of foreign affairs] will visit Hungary next week. These issues will surface during discussions with him. There is a principled political intention and there are practical difficulties. The intention of principle is that we should build a completely open Europe with borders which may be crossed freely. This has its economic preconditions, however, which must be created. Where the conditions do not yet exist, we must introduce certain limits.

[Szabo] Let me add two pieces of information: The Polish minister of foreign affairs will arrive in Budapest on 11 December. According to information from Moscow, the travel law will be introduced only in the summer, but it is also possible that it will take effect in January 1992.

UN Ambassador Favors Security Council Resolution

LD0812223690 Budapest MTI in English 1604 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Washington, December 8 (MTI)—The Iraqi attack on Kuwait has done the Palestinians and the other peoples in the region another injustice. The occupation of Kuwait has made it even more difficult to settle the Israeli-Arab conflict and the Palestinian issue, Andre Erdos, Hungary's ambassador to the United Nations,

said in his contribution to the Friday debate on the Middle East of the UN General Assembly.

Hungary, starting from its historical experience, holds it particularly condemnable that Iraq seeks to justify its aggression with reference to ancient borders and certain territories, belonging to one country or the other. Hungary rejects all attempts at the forceful modification of the borders in Europe, the Middle East or elsewhere, the ambassador said. He added that Hungary, commensurate with its possibilities, would be prepared to take part in implementing the resolution of the UN Security Council which has obliged Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait by January 15.

Justice should be done in the gulf. We would like to avoid the worst but not at any price. We do hope that sober mind will prevail in Baghdad, Ambassador Andre Erdos said.

Delegation Leader Comments on GATT Talks

LD0712231190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1900 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Hungary remains optimistic that the talks between the countries taking part in the GATT will end successfully, although no common ground could be reached in Brussels. The leader of the Hungarian delegation believes that if the great powers of trade are ready to make the necessary political decisions, then the GATT can continue its work successfully, otherwise the organization cannot be developed further. Janos Martonyi, state secretary, also mentioned that the most important thing for our country is that obstacles before agricultural products getting into market be reduced. To this, however, some countries should reduce their demand and make a compromise.

Foreign Minister Returns From Pacific Tour

LD0712081290 Budapest MTI in English 0556 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 6 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky returned from his tour of the Pacific and Southeast Asia on Thursday. Jeszenszky held talks in New Zealand, Australia and Thailand.

Answers Reporter's Questions

LD0712233390 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Interview with Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] In the past few days the Hungarian foreign minister has been visiting Thailand, New Zealand, and Australia. Today was the first time that Geza Jeszenszky has made an appearnce in the Foreign Ministry since his long journey.

[Reporter] What were the main lessons, the main results, of your journey to the Pacific and Southeast Asia?

[Jeszenszky] The agreement signed with Australia on the elimination of double taxation can be considered as a concrete result. It is very important for entrepreneurs how many places they have to pay tax. To me, and I think perhaps to the Hungarian economy and Hungarian policy as well, the lesson that although these countries are geographically half a world away from us, this distance today, when there is mobility of capital and import of technology, is not so great. These countries are trying to find their place in the new world and are scared of being squeezed out of Europe as a result of the spreading of the EC, the significance of its present role, and this is why they are interested in Hungary. They regard Hungary as a potential bridgehead into Western Europe—as well as Eastern Europe which hopefully will develop and prosper.

Officials Send National Day Greetings to Finland

LD0612172690 Budapest MTI in English 1626 GMT 6 Dec 90

[Text] Budapest, December 5 (MTI)—Arpad Goncz, president of the Republic of Hungary, has sent a telegram of greetings to President Mauno Koivisto on the national day of Finland.

Prime Minister Jozsef Antall has sent a telegram of greetings to Premier Harri Holkeri, Gyorgy Szabad, speaker of parliament, to Kalevi Sorsa, speaker of the Finnish parliament, and foreign minister Geza Jeszenszky to his counterpart Pertti Paasio.

Walesa Wins Nation's First Multiparty Elections

Receives 77 Percent of Vote

LD0912192590 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1906 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen. This is the forecast of today's voting, of how many votes were cast for the two candidates for the presidential office. Let us have a card from our computer.

According to the forecast, Lech Walesa: 77 percent. Stanislaw Tyminski, as you may have seen on your screens for a moment, has received 23 percent of the votes.

[Paris AFP in English at 1910 GMT on 9 December reports that "Solidarity leader Lech Walesa was elected president of Poland on Sunday with 77 per cent of the vote." The AFP report adds: "His rival, Stanislaw Tyminski, received 23 per cent."]

Comments on Final Results

LD0912214990 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2104 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Interview with President-elect Lech Walesa by unidentified reporter; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. President, first of all the most sincere congratulations, and a request for first reflections.

[Walesa] I want to say that one should make a statement when the results are known. Now we have only initial results and in this connection I do not want to say anything officially. I will speak officially in a few minutes. Nevertheless, I want to say that I am aware of all the extremely difficult tasks that are ahead of us. But if we defeated the system, and we did it without a single shot and without a drop of blood, we can try to build a new system.

I believe that we shall succeed. I believe, because our 10-year experience gives us hope for victory on this path.

[Reporter] Please tell us your first impression when you saw the results.

[Walesa] Well, I do not want to be a prig—I have often been called this. But I would like to remind you that I said the result would be between 70 and 80 per cent. Of course, I was not talking about the heats, I was talking about the final. [laughs]

We have been lucky. We had luck. All the best. You have good champagne here.

Makes Victory Statement

LD0912223890 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2123 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Statement by Polish President-elect Lech Walesa in Warsaw on 9 December—recorded]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, the elections are behind us. Another lesson in democracy has been lived through. We must all thank each other and exchange congratulations.

During the last decade we have, together, lived through a turning point in the history of our nation. Before our very eyes, the drams of generations have come true: We have regained our freedom; providence has granted us the privilege of finding a peaceful solution; without shedding blood, through Solidarity, we worked toward freedom. It is up to us, and only to us, what we do with it in the future. During this campaign this was often forgotten.

A great responsibility will lie with the president. It will also lie with us. Everyone should feel a master in our common home: to hold a piece of Poland, his own property, which he will respect and for which he will care. This is the simplest philosophy of responsibility. No professional group, no man will be able to say: There are no perspectives before me. There is work for everyone in Poland. We must change much, and modernize much: This is a new task for the intelligentsia. First, however, we must help ourselves. In Europe, that is what thy will value us for. A Poland economically developed will be one of the pillars for peace and order in Europe. A poor Poland, on the other hand, will find itself faced with a wall of antipathy on all borders.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have before us a difficult task: To believe in ourselves at last, and to achieve a measurable success. A success for everyone. I am sure that we will achieve this. So help us God.

Holds Postelection News Conference

LD0912235590 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2136 GMT 9 Dec 90

[News conference by President-elect Lech Walesa in Gdansk—live]

[Excerpts] [Joanna Kluzik] First of all, I would like to congratulate you on behalf of SOLIDARITY WEEKLY. I have two questions. You said you would be a president of all the Poles. What does it mean in the face of the fact that a part of the electorate has cast votes for your adversary? And a second question: What does it mean for the Solidarity trade union that you are leaving the chair of its leader?

[Walesa] I am aware what great tasks are ahead of us. I always used to repeat that we had triumphed only in a first stage, and some people still had doubts. That means, we have departed from the system that prevailed for 45 years. Now, we must build a new system in the same manner in which we defeated the old one. Everything is

moving too slowly in our country. There are many wrongs, many unsettled accounts, and many tasks ahead of us. In this connection I am going to propose an active participation to all people who would like to build a new Poland, and I will strive to find a place for everybody so we can go together in the same direction while preserving our differences. I hope I will succeed and I hope we will build this second stage with the same precision as the first.

As for the Solidarity trade union, I want to say that from a place I think I have reached—although there are still no official results--that from this place I will strive to win solidarity as a Polish reform, to win solidarity and to help it to reform our country quickly, but of course this must not intefere in building pluralism and in building democracy. We can be in various places, but we only have one country, one Poland, and she needs to be reformed as quickly as possible by great forces.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, I am proud that I can address you in this manner after all these years when we called you Mr. Chairman. Congratulations on my behalf and that of GAZETA GDANSKA, which has backed you since the very outset of this campaign. But my question is less courteous than the first [word indistinct], namely, Mr. President, what kind of government, who is to be the prime minister? Recently you mentioned four figures who could become prime minister. Political consultations have been going on. What is the result?

[Walesa] As I have already told you many times, I have at least five alignments. The best one will be applied. I still cannot say today from this position which alignment will be the best, but I hope that on about Tuesday or Wednesday I will have the final version of the best variant at this time, of the best prime minister, who will lead Poland more quickly and decisively to the goal, that is, to the reforms that we all want. I cannot reveal any names today. I already announced the four candidates earlier on. There are still three to be added, but I am not going to say who, as you would immediately [word indistinct].

[Reporter] Mr. President, first and foremost, best wishes from Italian Television and also from [word indistinct]. The first question: How would you comment on the fact that GAZETA WYBORCZA yesterday called you a sheriff when it wrote about your duel with Tyminski? And the second question: Are you considering some possible understanding with Mazowiecki?

[Walesa] I have to say, that from what I have watched about sheriffs, in 99 percent of the cases they were good and decisive people who put things in order. Naturally there were not very many bad sheriffs. I hope to be a good sheriff, a decisive one, a strong and effective one. Those are, however, [word indistinct] I do not want to play at this, but really work very strongly as there is a lot of work in this place, naturally within the competency of the law applied today and I think improved tomorrow by the new situation, which has arisen today. If it is a question of using Prime Minister Mazowiecki and his experience, I am sure that as he fought together with us, as he has a great part in this victory of all our, and my, successes, and generally the success of solidarity, as a patriot he will find a place to help Poland, to serve Poland. I am convinced about that, and how, we will see, as far as is possible, (?as far as it is possible to sustain).

[Kurski] Jacek Kurski, from TYGODNIK GDANSKI SOLIDARNOSC. Our paper also sends you our congratulations. A question to both of you [Mr. and Mrs. Walesa]: When on 13 December, during the night of the generals, the Polish Solidarity revolution was being murdered and when you were taken straight from your home to the place of your detention, did you believe that a day like today would come?

[Walesa] I would like to remind you what I said when they were taking me. [passage omitted] On the other hand, one must remember that I, all of us, are interested in a victory which will be somewhat different, that is, we want to build a system which will fit into Europe, a system which will allow us to live like other countries. We are neither worse nor more stupid, but we just did not have a good system. Together with you I intend to build such a system—and this is what it was all about. I have not for a second doubted that such a moment would come, and not for a second have I doubted that society will fight on and that it will win a possibility for development, the development which--as I was saying—is on a world level.

[Reporter] [words indistinct] Japanese Press Agency [word indistinct] Mr. President, how do you see your role as the president of the Polish Republic, and what presidential powers will be most [word indistinct]? And, the second question: How will you treat Mr. Tyminski in connection with his accusations against the current prime minister, and attacks on you?

[Walesa] I said it many times that I want to serve, that I will not be [passage indistinct] I will work hard. I will work hard so that there are effects, so that Poland will be really changed; decisively, strongly, boldly, but at the same time with prudence. Of course, as I said many times, I am wise through your wisdom, I am strong through your strength, I will do everything so that every Pole has a little bit of Poland, as an owner, privately, in his own hands, especially the young people.

At the same time, I will try to make things easier for them, even foreign loans, so that this part in the hands of the young people yields well-being, a better living for them. It is a terrible task, but I believe because in history we did beautiful things many times. As far as Mr. Tyminski is concerned, I think he will disappear as quickly as he appeared because, really, he never proposed anything. I am not speaking as a victor, but really, they were all slogans, really he was not able to implement them. But in a democratic process, even our mistakes [changes thought] he will be a classic (?example) of our

mistakes, our shortcomings, and at the same time he pointed to problems which we had not spotted.

After all, these people who have enough of all this, those people who live in poor conditions, those people said: Enough is enough. And what is more, they do not believe Walesa either. I can always sense society. I feel they have doubts. I want to say that even if you have doubts then really we must—all the rest of the people who did not doubt—these people must make Poland such, so that those doubters join us quickly, because we need them.

I will do everything to ensure that they stop doubting, in order to show that there is a chance and opportunities for them to improve their lot, for there are many people in Poland who have a really hard life. [shouts and applause]

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] for some time now there has been speculation regarding the creation of some sort of presidential party. The Center Accord is being mentioned. Could you comment on this? And another thing, a week ago during the conference with Tyminski you said that you would not let him out of the country. Do you have any concrete actions in mind?

[Walesa] Well, all that has happened—the many accusations against the government, and all sorts of other things—all this will have to be clarified. I am quite certain the departments whose duty it is to deal with this will clarify this, because such behavior cannot be accepted, such accusations may not be made, such blackmail may not be used. But, the people who are supposed to deal with this must check all this, in the name of future campaigns, in the name of democracy. I am quite certain that they will do this, and that where it is necessary they will force an apology and where proofs are needed they will ensure that they are given. I will, of course, do all I can for this to happen, but through the appropriate specialized services. But this must not be a curtailment of democracy, some sort of show or some sort of hitting back, just a clarification to clear the atmosphere.

Ladies and gentlemen, as concerns a presidential party, I do not know. If the situation should require it, if the reforms [changes thought] If I should have too weak a support from society, disorganized, if for greater efficiency there should be such a need—not to support my power. [sentence as heard] I really did not play for this post, I really did not play for my career. I really do want to bring the reform to fruition. I really do want to go with society. I really do want to do really a great deal for this country.

I will act with bravado, push forward with force, but to do something, and not to act for myself, to fight for my own benefit. To fight for Poland, to fight for Polish reforms.

Can he leave tomorrow? I think so. I think this is a matter for the government. The president has, today, as you well know, restricted possibilities. Whether he will be given others, we do not know. For the time being it is a matter for the government. What he said, what he did, this should be clarified because many people supported him, and many people did not support him, and for them, for society a clarification is necessary. I believe this will be clarified, but it is a matter for the government, and I will be demanding this, of course.

[Lamkowski] Rafal Lamkowski of Independent Basic Level Schools magazine. You are the head of the Polish Armed Forces. Mr. Tyminski said Poland needs nuclear weapons. In connection with this I have the following questions for you: What do you think about Polish weaponry, about substitute military service, and the numbers of armed forces? And the second question: What can you say to the young people who completed their education this year and who are intending to leave Poland to earn some money?

[Walesa] Organizationally I do not know how we are going to do this, but there will be a need here for advice on the armed forces and I think that this young man ought to join this outfit because he really knows it. He asks a good question. I just do not know how things are regarding his age, but if possible then I will make sure you participate in the process of creating the new vision of how the armed forces are to be placed in Poland. On other matters, however, then I would like to say that in this difficult period, when we are dealing with issues relating to eastern and western borders, strong and clever armed forces are needed so that no one can threaten our process of reforms. We are not posturing against anyone, but nevertheless we live in a period when many issues are unclear, and that is why we need a professional army which will protect us from the outside in these difficult times. Regarding weaponry, I think there are so many threats already in Europe that there is no need to create more of them. I am against nuclear weapons in general. I am against development of the nuclear concept as such, but I will base my views on the Armed Forces General Staff, which will be the authority for me and which will work out the best solutions to cope with political challenges for the armed forces today.

Of course, as I said, we will aim at having a professional army. Let competence and education be the decisive factor. Professionalism is always better, but this will require a series of things. This is not a question of one day's work.

[Reporter] You were going to say something about youths. What is Monday going to be like?

[Walesa] On Monday we are coming to this office to work. Some union affairs will have to be handed over, and many people who worked hard will have to be thanked for their effort. One should say good bye and start looking from a different angle. So, tomorrow I will start working at 0930. My wife will prepare lunch and dinner for me. So far, we do not have a cook and a helper.

[Reporter] [Passage indistinct] is a political authorization for your presidential plans?

[Walesa] I have said precisely that I would like to get 70 to 80 percent, but I was talking not about heats, but about the final, and I was right.

Jaruzelski Congratulates President-Elect Walesa

LD0912212790 Warsaw PAP in English 2038 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 9—Outgoing Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski sent a congratulatory cable to President-elect Lech Walesa in which he extended to the latter his best wishes of fruitful activity for the well-being of the motherland.

"I wish you that the agreement and consolidation of the nation around the implementation of political, social and economic reforms could bring favourable development of Poland, strengthen her due position among states and nations of the world," the cable reads.

Tyminski Prepared To Establish New Party

LD1012010190 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 2041 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Interview with presidential candidate Stanislaw Tyminski by Karol Malcuzynski and Tadeusz Snup; place not given—live]

[Excerpt] [Malcuzynskiy] Please sir, Karol Malcuzynski and Tadeusz Snup from this side. Can you hear us?

[Tyminski] Yes, I can.

[Malcuzynski] What were your first reactions to the results of the second round of the elections. You were the black horse in the first round, and in the second you lost to Lech Walesa. How do you feel now?

[Tyminski] I am surprised that I had such a small result. I did not expect such a small result; I expected about 50 percent in these elections.

[Malcuzynski] What are you going to do now? Do you intend to return to your business and carry out economic activity, or do you want to carry on with your political activity in Poland?

[Tyminski] A lot depends on my wife, and our children are still in Canada at this moment. As the situation in Poland was not safe, my wife considered that the children ought not to be in Poland up to now.

I would like to stay in Poland as I have received so much support from so many people. I consider it to be my moral duty to stay and help in the fight for a real democracy, which has not existed up to now, and which does not exist.

[Malcuzynski] What were you talking about? What did you have in mind when you said it was dangerous in Poland?

[Tyminski] Many people have been frightened in these elections; many people have been beaten up; there were many difficulties.

[Snup] One needs to have some kind of base to stay in Poland and carry on political activity. Do you intend to open some political party?

[Tyminski] Let's say that if it is going to be necessary, then yes. So far, I have had many proposals, but I considered that, as an independent candidate, I should not found a political party. If there is a need for it, then, naturally I am ready, (?and I have experience in this). [passage omitted]

Tyminski: 'I Am Number Two Man in Poland'

LD1012022990 Warsaw PAP in English 0020 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—I won this election because I am number two man in Poland. A man from nowhere, I have become a second man in this country," said Stanislaw Tyminski when leaving his campaign headquarters tonight amid cheers from his supporters after a landslide victory by Lech Walesa unofficially announced this evening.

Earlier tonight Tyminski said he would form his own political party if he lost, the TV electoral studio has reported.

"If it is a defeat, we will have to start building democracy in our country anew, even in prison," Tyminski said after first estimates showed Walesa's landslide victory over in the run-off presidential elections.

Leading Politicians Assess Second Round Results

LD1012004790 Warsaw PAP in English 2312 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—PAP asked a number of leading Polish politicians to comment on the results of today's second round of presidential elections in Poland. Excerpts:

Jaroslaw Kaczynski: This had to happen. I would have had to have an awful opinion about our nation to think that Tyminski had a greater chance. I am happy that Walesa's victory was so overwhelming. We are experiencing a victory of Polish democracy today.

Wladyslaw Sila-Nowicki: Even though many do not like Walesa, when he enters the Belweder (seat of the Polish president) he may bring Poland changes for the better.

Tadeusz Fiszbach: The results of the elections correspond to my views and support which I extended to Lech Walea from the very start. This support has its roots in the August agreements which I signed together with Walesa in Gdansk. I trust that in cooperation with all of us, Walesa's mission as president will be a successful one.

Bronislaw Geremek: The new president, next to proposals concerning the government, will have to face a difficult task of convincing Polish society that the changes initiated by the Mazowiecki government need to be continued:

Leszek Moczulski: The results of the elections are no surprise to me, neither is the dimension of Walesa's victory. Votes were cast for the candidate who gives a better chance for stability, and only in such conditions one can think about choosing and then implementing a concrete political and economic programme. My biggest fear is that Walesa may want to continue the policy of the Mazowiecki camp.

Michal Boni: I am satisfied with the election results but it made me think what Tyminski has said: that he will stay in Poland and form his own political party. Thus, I think that a very sharp political opposition alliance may be expected, which may, but does not have to, play a positive role towards the Solidarity camp. New president's task is to build a state of equilibrium, in which conflicts can be articulated, but at the same time plans will be created to solve them. I trust that Walesa will be a president who will be able to meet those tasks.

Leszek Miller: It was an expected victory. I think that Walesa as if meets his legend half-way. [sentence as received] For him, it is a very dangerous confrontation because it may mean the end of that legend in confrontation with society's hopes and expectations, which Walesa as president may not be able to meet in light of the current complex reality.

Glemp Supports Walesa, Views Church Message

AU0812174290 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 4 Dec 90 p 1

[PAP report: "Renewed Appeal to All Poles To Vote"]

[Excerpts] Rome— The Polish primate, Cardinal Jozef Glemp, arrived in Rome on Monday [3 December] accompanied by Archbishop Bronislaw Dabrowski, secretary of the Polish Episcopate. On his arrival the primate was asked to interpret the most recent communique issued by the Conference of the Polish Episcopate. He was adamant in stressing that it was clear how the communique was to be interpreted and thus confirmed the church's unequivocal support for the candidate whose roots are in the "Solidarity" movement.

The primate was also accompanied by Bishop Alojzy Orszulik, deputy secretary of the Episcopate, and bishops from all the dioceses that the pope will visit when he comes to Poland next year.

PAP's Rome correspondent asked the primate to comment on the content of the recent communique issued by the the Conference of the Polish Episcopate. The primate said: "It is clear. We said what we really felt and what was necessary, believing this statement to be prompted by national interests, not by political considerations, and stressing the need for prayer, everyone's participation in public life and, therefore, in the elections and in continuing the past ten years of striving toward liberation and freedom."

Asked about one of the presidential candidates [Tyminski] citing the communique as expressing support for himself, the primate gave the curt reply: "But no one can believe that; it was a very brazen thing to say."

How does the primate assess the social situation in Poland at the present time? He said: "It is simply a very youthful democracy that is in the process of developing. Everyone has to learn about democracy and people have to realize that democracy also means the ability to think about everyone and not just oneself." [passage omitted]

Church's Expression of Support for Walesa Viewed

AU0812174690 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 4 Dec 90 p 1

[Tomasz Wolek commentary: "The Church Supports Walesa]

[Text] The church does not participate in politics. It only speaks out on political issues at particularly important times for the country, when the fate of the nation and state are at stake. The statements made by Cardinal Wyszynski during the Stalinist period were on that plane and of that order (the memorable "non possumus"), as were the letter from Polish bishops to their German counterparts and the stance of the Episcopate on martial law or on last year's parliamentary elections. The church also chooses its words with great care. This reticence is dictated by an awareness of its authority and dignity and a profound feeling of responsibility for the the good of the fatherland.

This time Stanislaw Tyminski had on previous occasions tried to exploit the church and religion in the presidential campaign. The brazen attempt to use the national sanctuary of Our Lady of Czestochowa elicited a protest from the prior of Jasna Gora. This rebuke was to no avail. Tyminski sought to usurp for himself the support expressed in the last communique issued by the conference of the Episcopate; support that was accorded in a completely unambiguous manner to the representative of "Solidarity," that is, to Lech Walesa. In light of such unprecedented abuse, the primate, Cardinal Glemp, decided to speak out. The Catholic Church in Poland has used firm words. They remove all doubt. In a negative sense, they are a condemnation of blatant lies. In a positive sense, they are an expression of complete support for Lech Walesa. With these few words, the highest moral authority that there is has conveyed a clear and firm message. It has expressed itself in a manner that is only used at times of decisive importance for the country.

Social Democrats Neutral Toward Both Candidates

AU0712135790 Warsaw PAP in English 1851 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 3: The result won by the representative of the left-wing, Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, in the first round of the presidential elections is received by us with satisfaction, the chairman of the Social-Democratic Party of the Republic of Poland (SDRP) Aleksander Kwasniewski said at a press conference here today. SDRP has now more than 60,000 members.

We keep an equal distance to both candidates for president. We count on the wisdom and care for the good of Poland of the sympathizers of our party who will manifest their own decisions in voting, Kwasniewski said and added that none of the candidates made him enthusiastic as none of them had presented credible political or economic concepts.

The head of Cimoszewicz's electoral staff, Tomasz Nalecz, denied rumours of the alleged talks between Cimoszewicz and Tyminski, or between their electoral staffs.

Tyminski Assaulted With Tomatoes at Meeting

AU0712164590 Warsaw PAP in English 2142 GMT 3 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 3: "During my electoral campaign I have travelled 15 thousand kilometres, (but) for the first time I have a meeting in such a large hall in Warsaw", Stanislaw Tyminski said opening his electoral meeting in a sports hall here today.

His words were interrupted with shouts: "Lech Walesa".

"I would like to welcome supporters of Lech Walesa too. Democracy should be like this," the independent candidate retorted.

The audience reacted either with boos or applause, depending on their sympathies, to this statement.

Slogans "Rider from nowhere", "Out with Walesa", "Out with Tyminski", "Kiszczak (former interior minister) with you", "Targowica 90" (reference to Polish gentry's treason in the 18th century), and others appeared in the hall.

Trying to outshout the crowd Tyminski said: "I have heard about Walesa, now I hear 'Targowica'. We have an example of a genuine democracy here. I have seen the same in Peru."

His other words were made unintelligible by the noise.

After several unsuccessful attempts to address the meeting and having been thrown at with tomatoes, Tyminski was escorted by security staff out of the hall.

Lewin Says Tyminski's 'Peruvian Recipe' No Good

AU0812182890 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 4 Dec 90 p 2

[Ludwik Lewin commentary: "A Peruvian Recipe"]

[Text] Whenever anyone makes any accusations against Mr. Tyminski, or expresses doubts about him, or tries to clarify the meager and contradictory information about his life and business career, the supporters of the "independent presidential candidate" immediately answer back with accusations of lying, using discredited methods of the old era, and God knows what else.

And yet the tactics of Stanislaw Tyminski and his election staff involve secrecy, making contacts difficult, and creating blank spots on the subject of the candidate himself and his staff.

We have heard all over Poland that people involved in the election campaign of Lech Walesa's competitor refuse to give their names, while others, whose contacts with Tyminski are quite obvious, deny having anything at all to do with him apart from chance social meetings.

Mr. Tyminski himself applies the noble legal principle whereby it is necessary to prove one's guilt, not one's innocence. Instead of answering questions, he demands that those who ask them, even if they do so in a nonaggressive manner, present evidence. Stanislaw Tyminski, however, is not facing a court, but an electorate, and he should not behave like an accused convict, but present himself to a society that does not know him.

This persecution complex, however, has turned out to be a very successful propaganda instrument in a country with 45 years of communism behind it. The old system taught people that the press can very easily become the mouthpiece of completely alien forces, and convinced them that any undue interest by journalists must mean an organized campaign against someone.

And this is not the best situation in which to convince people that ZYCIE WARSZAWY and other Polish papers are doing exactly the same thing as THE WASHINGTON POST.

We are not, however, interested in how much tax Mr. Tyminski pays in Canada, though it would not be a good thing if he suddenly turned out to be a very average entrepreneur instead of a millionaire. Nor are we interested in what kind of food his Peruvian restaurant serves, or whether the cable television station allegedly belonging to Mr. Tyminski has paid for permission to show films.

After all, Lech Walesa also came from nowhere. At first, the only thing anyone knew about him was that he

jumped over a shipyard fence. But the difference is that one week later, everyone knew everything about Walesa and his advisers, whereas still nothing is known about Tyminski.

But in Tyminski's case, the question is whether the words of praise for General Jaruzelski because of his memorable 13 December 1981 decision were not inspired by the life histories of Tyminski's covert aides, who, according to information we have received from various quarters, were quite active in the nomenklatura until quite recently.

And here the issue becomes ominous. Stan Tyminski combines his extreme liberalism with the conviction that privatization is not necessary to have efficient enterprises. Western experience clearly shows that state enterprises always perform worse than private ones, that they swallow more of the taxpayer's money, and need more subsidies. And that is the situation in any mature free market economy. No explanation is needed about how the situation in Poland should be.

By the way, Mr. Tyminski would like to halt the struggle against inflation, saying that this struggle is too costly for the working people. At a news conference, he boasted that real wages in his Peruvian enterprise had increased despite the triple-figure inflation in Peru. Maybe, but the whole of Peru is in the throes of so-called stagflation, i.e. inflation coupled with recession, a collapse of economic growth, and an increase in unemployment.

There are fears that the implementation of Tyminski's recipes would bring Poland the same kind of fortune as Peru. Perhaps they would also bring about martial law, which Tyminski finds so hard to assess.

Iraqi Decision To Release Hostages Welcomed

LD0812083190 Warsaw PAP in English 2103 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 7—In his statement broadcast in the main part of the "Wiadomosci" TV news desk tonight, Deputy Foreign Minister Jan Majewski said that Poland welcomed President Saddam Husayn's decision to allow hostages to return home.

Majewski voiced hope that this would be followed by Iraq's compliance with the UN Security Council resolution and restoration of the sovereignty of Kuwait and permission for the return of that country's legitimate government.

As for the notion of hostages, it does not apply to Poles saying in Iraq. 401 Poles are staying now in that country, out of whom 246 want to return home. The nearest plane, to bring home Poles working in Iraq, will come here on December 19, Majewski said.

Iraqi Deputy Foreign Minister Fajsal will also come by this plane as he was invited to Poland to hold talks on those cases in which it is difficult to gain permission to leave.

Social Agreement Signed by Poland, Germany

LD0812123690 Berlin Deutschlandsender Network in German 1200 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] A German-Polish social agreement was signed in Warsaw today by Labor Ministers Bluem and Kuron. It mainly contains agreements on pension and medical insurance. In addition, now more than 35,000 instead of 10,000 Poles a year can work temporarily in Germany.

WEU Head Moots 'Indirect' Security Guarantees

LD0812000690 Warsaw PAP in English 2046 GMT 7 Dec 90l

[Text] London, Dec.7—Secretary General of the Western European Union Willem van Eekelen told PAP's correspondent that this organization, which associates nine Western European countries, could give Poland indirect guarantees of security.

Under the first step in this direction, Poland should assure these countries that her territory would not be used as a base or a deployment area for the forces which could be used against them. In turn, the Western European would issue a declaration that the continuation of democracy in Poland or in the whole region of Central and Eastern Europe is perceived by the Western European Union as a key factor of international security in the new strategical-and political situation in Europe.

The gaining by Poland of the status of the EC's associate members would bring further progress in this field. Van Eekelen said that shortly after presidential elections in Poland he would like to pay another visit to Warsaw.

Government Postpones Price Liberalization

AU0712191990 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1850 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—Romania's Government met on Friday [7 December] afternoon under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Petre Roman to analyze the budget of the Central State Administration for 1991. In that context estimations were made as regards the balance of payments for 1991 and the state incomes and expenditures for the ongoing year. During the meeting a postponement until 1 June 1991 was decided of the liberalization of the prices of bread and other baked products, meat, fish, canned meat and fish, dairy products, items for children, school uniforms and stationery, sugar, edible oil, eggs, potatoes, beans, medicines, medical care, of the products and services. [sentence as received]

Also debated were aspects of the current social life in our country in connection with which the government's spokesman will release an official communique.

Measures Rescheduled for 1 Jun 1991

AU0812141790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0955 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—A 7 December decision of the executive that the new retail prices of certain essential foods and non-foods due to take effect on 1 January 1991 will be deferred until 1 June 1991 calls for 38 billion lei in government subsidies the government spokesman, Bogdan Baltazar, told the press. He also announced that the state administration's budget bill for 1991 was passed Friday. The budget bill, he stressed reflects in essence a break forever with rigid central planning and financing practices and a restructuring of the economy on the market economy principles.

The central administration bill makes provision for the achievement at the current economic potential of the rights all Romanian citizens are entitled to: education, health, culture, social security, peaceful work, public order and protection of the environment. Also for the achievement and stimulation, through economic and financial incentives, of the mechanisms of economic competition, a faster pace of the privatisation process, and the activity of economic agents. The budget, Mr. Baltazar said, will be a stabilizing factor of the economy by correlating demand and the national economic potential with as high a labour employment rate as possible.

In reference to a Thursday evening incident at the television [studio], the government spokesman said government members had voiced their discontent for the attempt to interfere with the normal and civilised operation of TV programmes. Such acts of anarchy, the government, spokesman said, are an open provocation to the country. The government, he said, true to the freedom of the press principles, believes that different political opinions and views should be allowed to be stated, but it also believes it is essential that the television, as a national institution, should operate in a lawful, organised framework in a coordinated and coherent system, and that anarchic, individual actions that reflect narrow interests, vain-gloriousness, etc. should be fought against. I am empowered to say in context that any TV or any other mass media programmes where calls to the use of force to overthrow the lawful democratically elected authorities can be heard are clearly unlawful and will be dealt with as such, the government spokesman said. Reminding that traditional democracies wherefrom we are learning, wherefrom we are trying to learn as much as we can, hold very harsh lessons in that respect, the government spokesman said: We assure you that we will try to learn also in this field the lessons of traditional, established democracies.

The government has also discussed the Auto Drivers' Trade Union ultimative demands for the cabinet resignation and other purely political claims; if they are not met, it threatens to start a strike on 10 December that will only end when the claims are fulfilled. The cabinet, Mr. Bogdan Baltazar said, takes the view that this action is anti-social, anti-national and unlawful. The strike is inhuman, it is aimed against the whole country. It is unlawful since it violates not only the laws of the country, but also the auto drivers' union statutes. According to a law recently enacted by Parliament, the government has authorised the Ministry of National Defense and other ministries which own road transport equipment to ensure that foods, medicines and other essentials are even partially delivered to the population.

The cabinet also discussed in its meeting another move that the spokesman called "utterly irresponsible," namely the position of the Medias Gas Central Union which threatens to call a strike unless it is permitted to become the country's second autonomous gas corporation.

We must clearly state, said Mr. Bogdan Baltazar, that the organisation of economic units falls outside the competence of unions, hence to threaten a strike for such claims which are essentially administrative is also unlawful.

I have been empowered by the government to state, said Mr. Baltazar, that in consideration of the facts and the atmosphere I just mentioned and of other possible attempts that we call—let's admit it—destabilising, political in character, openly aimed against the rule of law and the country, the government within the limits of the law but also in defence of the law will show firmness, a sense of self-exigency but also of exigency before the vast majority of the population which trusts it and with whose support it governs.

National Student Conference Issues Communique

AU0712210090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1941 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—The Student Convention's Member Organizations that participated

in the Buzias—Timisoara National Student Conference sent the press the following communique:

"Our organizations have always fought for the principles of democracy and freedom in Romania, for the observance of human rights, all our actions having an exclusively peaceful, nonviolent character.

"Irrespective of the political schemes and maneuvers that might be staged in our so tormented society, we want to make it clear to everybody that our organizations did not, do not and never will have anything in common with any action contrary to our principles.

"Our only purpose is to contribute, as much as we can and as much as we are allowed, to the democratization of our country, to the consolidation of the Romanian civil society and of the unitary Romanian national state."

Conference Ends, Requests Strikes

AU0912185590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] At the end of the national students' conference organized by the Convention of Students' Organizations in Timisoara and the Students' League of Bucharest, a meeting was held in the students campus in the city on the Bega River, ROMPRES reports.

Authorized for 1100, the meeting began after 1400. In the presence of several thousand students, several protests against the government and the country's president were read. The participants then started a march from the student campus during which they chanted antipresidential and antigovernmental slogans and demanded a general strike in all faculties in Timisoara and the rest of the country.

Drivers' Union Holds News Conference on Strike

AU0812192690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1838 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—A press conference of the leaders of the Drivers' Trade Union of Romania (SSR) was held at the headquarters of the "Fratia" Trade Union Confederation on Saturday. They told Romanian and foreign journalists of the claims that prompted their decision to go on an all-country strike on Monday, December 10, 1990.

A press release from the SSR National Council shows that the strike was determined by the government's refusal to enter a dialogue. The claims are the resignation of the government, the creation of a national-union government, the dismissal of the compromised managers of economic units and of the bodies of local county administration and their replacement by people who truly stand for the spirit of the December 22, 1989 revolution. The press release also points out that bread and milk supply, the supply of creches, kindergartens, hospitals, canteens, and nursing homes, as well as ambulance services will not be affected by the strike.

Mr. Daniel Vasile, service-chairman, said the aim of the press conference was to made known the stance of his union as to the statement made by Mr. Bogdan Baltazar, spokesman for the government, showing the SSR rejected all the accusations leveled at it, including that it went into politics. Mr. Vasile also said the SSR would not go on strike against the National Salvation Front, the country's president, the Parliament or other political party. The decision to go on strike was prompted solely by the fact that the government failed to give adequate attention to the trade unions and failed to consider them "a partner in the accomplishment of the reforms aimed at Romania's development."

During the press conference communiques were read expressing solidarity with the SSR action from seven central trade unions: the "Fratia" Confederation, the "Hercules" Confederation, the Inter-Trade Union Alliance, the Unaffiliated Free Trade Union Convention of Romania, the "Alfa" cartel, the "Consenerg," the Confederation of Free Trade Unions of Romania.

Mayor Refuses To Authorize Rally

AU0812201890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Communique from Bucharest Mayor Viorel Nicolae Oproiu in Bucharest on 8 December]

[Text] The Bucharest City Hall announces that on the morning of 8 December the Administrative Council examined the request of certain Bucharest trade unions to organize marches, followed by protest rallies in Victory Square or Aviators Square on 10 December 1990. Requests were considered from the following: The Trade Union of Drivers of Romania; the Fratia [Brotherhood] Confederation of Independent Trade Unions; the Anghel Saligny Federation of Independent Trade Unions in Construction; the Federation of Independent Trade Unions in Construction and Building Materials; the Federation of Trade Unions in Land Improvement and Agricultural Construction; and the Confederation of Energy Trade Unions, CONSENERG.

The Trade Union of Drivers in Romania asked Bucharest City Hall for their approval for drivers to bring their equipment to the demonstration scheduled to take place on 10 December, with fleets of trucks leaving their bases along four different routes and eventually converging on Aviator's Square.

Following this request, on 6 December, at the invitation of Bucharest General Mayor Mr. Viorel Nicolae Oproiu, talks took place at the City Hall with representatives of this trade union in connection with the announced rally. During the talks, the trade union representatives announced verbally, and later in writing, the decision of the National Council of the Trade Unions of Auto Drivers of Romania to launch an unlimited nationwide general strike on 10 December at 1400 [1200 GMT]. The City Hall's request that the demonstration should proceed without the use of the drivers' equipment—given

the fact that Bucharest is currently faced with serious problems concerning public supplies of food, water, and heating—was rejected by the representatives of the Fratia Confederation of Independent Trade Unions and the Trade Union of Drivers of Romania.

After an examination of the results of these talks and of other requests for protest demonstrations and rallies, City Hall came to the conclusion that the overlapping of such actions—scheduled to take place on the same day, and at approximately the same time, on the main thoroughfares of the city and the adjacent streets—would lead to breaks in public supplies and transportation and would affect the circulation of such services as rescue and fire trucks, through the crowding or blocking of the streets leading to the aforementioned points, and would seriously jeopardize life in the capital city.

On the basis of these conclusions and the provisions of Decree Law No. 39 of 24 January 1990, the Administrative Council did not approve the holding of these rallies.

In conclusion, the communique of the Bucharest Municipality City Hall calls on the initiators of these actions to reconsider their requests, in a spirit of civic responsibility, by taking into account the real and most serious consequences that such actions could have for the life of the capital.

TU Group Issues 'Ultimatum-Like Protest'

AU0812211690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] The General Council of the National Confederation of Free Trade Unions in Romania [CNSLR] sent the following communique to the ROMPRES national news agency:

At an extraordinary meeting held today, the Presidium of the CNSLR General Council, which represents more than 3 million TU members—having acknowledged the inefficiency of the dialogue conducted thus far with the government and the persistence of the disastrous economic and social situation that affects the country—addresses an ultimatum-like protest to the government. To find an immediate solution to the problems facing the employees and to alleviate the state of tension, the CNSLR asks for negotiations with the Romanian Government on 8 or 9 December 1990.

If this last attempt at negotiation is turned down, the CNSLR will launch TU labor actions to be decided by the General Council, which will be immediately convened in extraordinary session.

Iliescu Sees Pro-Government TU Delegation

AU0812210390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] President Mr. Ion Iliescu received a delegation of the Alliance of Free and Independent Inter-Trade Unions from Bucharest's Sector 3 this afternoon, at the latter's request. The delegation consisted of trade union leaders from the following enterprises: Republica, Policolor, Biofan, and [word indistinct] as well as from medical, glass, anticorrosion protection, special equipment, cables, and electrical insulators units.

The delegation presented the Alliance's position concerning what it considers as attempts at economic and social destabilization of the country, through the organization of politically motivated strikes and demonstrations by certain trade unions.

The Alliance declares that it categorically opposes the irresponsible calls to a general strike.

Meetings Suggested for Aviator Square

AU0912204590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] In response to the objections of Bucharest's City Hall in conformity with which the organization of meetings in several places in Bucharest could seriously disturb traffic and people's supplies, the Fratia Confederation of Independent Trade Unions invites the Inter-Trade Union Confederation, Alfa Cartel, Hercules Confederation, and the Nonaffiliated Free Trade Union Convention of Romania to carry out their protest actions just in one place, namely Aviator Square.

The participants are asked to behave in a civilized manner and not to respond to provocations.

We want to recall that Bucharest City Hall has not favorably endorsed the holding of these meetings.

Strike Said Not To Interrupt Supply

AU1012132590 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1034 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/12/1990—Learning about the stand taken by the government and set forth by Minister of State Ion Aurel Stoica on the television, according to which the Drivers' Union threatens to disrupt population's supply and the unloading of imported commodities, the Presidium of the National Council of the Driver's Union states that these activities will be provided for, stresses a communique signed by that body's chairman, Miron Mitrea.

Reiterating the resolve of the Drivers' Union to militate for justice, for freedom and plenty, the communique specifies that theirs are not political but strictly wage claims.

Planned Drivers' Strike Incites Reactions

Government Condemns Planned Rally

AU0912190490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1843 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/12/1990—Putting forth the government's position on the unions demonstrations

planned for Monday, 10 December, in Bucharest, in a statement read on the national television station Sunday evening, Minister of State Ion Aurel Stoica stressed, among other things: "The organisation and holding by Romania's auto drivers union of actions with a marked political character means disregard of the democratic principles of the state of law and is in violation of its own statutes. At the same time, the abuse of state-owned transport equipment and fuel, blocking traffic and perturbation, disturbance of public order and peace, prevention of a normal supply of the population, problems caused to production processes in industrial and agricultural units are against the legal provisions and affect the interests of all the citizens of the country.

FSN Condemns 'Destabilizing' Acts

AU0812210190 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Here is a communique from the Steering Collegium of the National Salvation Front [FSN]: Almost a year after the December revolution, Romanian society is marked by many tensions, hardships, and conflicts, which are profoundly against the goal of Romania's renewal and in flagrant contradiction with what a truly democratic social and political framework should be. Some opposition forces, the FSN communique reads, are circumventing the natural framework for political assertion and are aggressively involved in profoundly destabilizing the country's social and economic structures, by coordinating the undemocratic and often violent street contestation of the legitimate power.

The latest period is indicative of the particularly dangerous course taken by these actions, which have become quite frequent, as they instigate nonrecognition of the nation's elected representatives, persist in creating disorder and violating the legal framework, and manipulate, behind the scenes, various organizations, associations, and even trade unions.

The FSN considers the recent calls to a general strike an obscure manipulation of certain forces which are profoundly hostile to Romania's general interests. At the same time, the FSN considers the political leanings of certain trade unions as a most serious phenomenon, particularly when their actions are to the detriment of the interests of those whom they claim to represent.

Who stands to benefit, at such a crucial time, from these concerted actions and forces, whose goals are obviously running counter to the goals of the majority of the country's citizens? Given the current economic difficulties, what else can be the outcome of a would-be general strike, but a state of general chaos?

Who is trying to prevent Romania from implementing its reform program and to force it to be constantly confronted with a state of uncertainty and instability? Who wants to prevent the social dialogue from taking place?

All these questions—actually, they are basic problems of the Romanian people—should be given responsible answers and appropriate steps should be taken.

The communique is signed by Claudiu Iordache, FSN first vice president.

Minister Stoica Condemns Strike

AU1012132390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1030 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/12/1990—Mr. Ion Aurel Stoica, minister of state for the quality of life and social security, announced on the Romanian Television Sunday [9 December] the government's point of view about the actions planned by the Auto Drivers' Union of Romania for Monday, December 10. The organization and implementation by that trade union of actions with a pronounced political character, he said, means not to observe the democratic principles underlying the state of law and goes against the provisions of that union's own status. Moreover, by abusing state-owned vehicles and fuel, blocking and interfering with road traffic, disturbing public order, preventing a normal food supply of the population, and causing difficulties in the production process of industrial and agricultural units are against the law and against the interests of all the country's citizens. The government, in view of its responsibilities, has no right to tolerate such actions and, therefore, if such actions take place, it will have to notify the judiciary according to the law.

The Romanian Government once more appeals to the country's auto drivers to show maturity, lucidity and civic spirit, and trusts that reason, as a decisive factor of national conciliation and unity will prevail again, opening the way to a constructive dialogue, Minister Stoica said.

Free Democratic Party Supports Rally

AU0812212990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] The ROMPRES agency received an appeal from the Free Democratic Party which calls on all members and supporters to participate on Monday, 10 December 1990, in the rally organized by the Drivers Trade Union. The appeal emphasizes that this action should clearly express the Romanian people's desire for truth, justice, prosperity, and real democracy.

Land Improvement TU Postpones 10 Dec Rally

AU0912204390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] A communique sent to ROMPRES news agency by the Federation of Trade Unions in Land Improvement and Agricultural Construction announces the postponement of the demonstration planned for 10 December 1990 to a date which will be announced later

in conformity with the results of negotiations with the government under Petition No. 4354 of 29 October 1990.

The communique also mentions that the problem of land improvement is of national interest and constitutes a vital activity in Romania's agriculture and that stopping this activity would seriously affect both the economy and social activity.

Postal Workers Cancel Planned Strike

AU0812213090 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2000 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] The Federation of Romanian Post and Telecommunications announces that, following negotiations between its Executive Bureau and members of the management board of the Autonomous "Rom-Post-Telefon" Company, the 24-hour strike scheduled for (?10 December) will be canceled.

Students' Alliance Demands Iliescu's Resignation

AU0912153590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] A communique, which was dispatched by telephone from Timisoara by a representative of the Information and Relations Department of the Students League of Bucharest University to be publicized by ROMPRES, makes a number of statements in response—as the text emphasizes—to President Ion Iliescu's televised speech on the evening of 7 December 1990.

The text received by ROMPRES stresses the following: We demand President Ion Iliescu's resignation, not because we are in the service of some obscure forces, but because his presence at the helm of our country and his actions beginning 22 December 1989 and up to the present are incompatible. The communique also stresses that to organize protest strikes and meetings is not the same thing as organizing a state coup. The communique continues by saying that the economic reform is progressing with difficulty in Eastern countries primarily because communist bureaucracy has not been removed. If, however, Mr. Iliescu had the same attitude toward the nomenklatura as, for instance, Vaclav Havel, then the students would be the first ones to be on his side.

We want to draw the country's attention to the fact that we welcome all manifestations of solidarity with our actions; the decision to go on strike until President Iliescu resigns is ours and we assume full responsibility toward the country, the communique continues.

The communique also includes the following remark: The absence of a policy of protecting the intelligentsia, consequently leading to massive emigration abroad, has caused Romania incomparably greater harm than the hasty measures for social protection in which the government invested so much energy. Another appeal to all the country's citizens was launched by Mr. Ion Iliescu on the evening of 13 June 1990. The result is well known.

In conclusion, the communique demands—to get a real image of the results of the policy promoted by the government in connection with the students—that the Romanian Opinion Poll Institute conduct an opinion poll among students in connection with their options regarding a job outside Romania's borders, the text sent to ROMPRES stresses.

Forum Elects Cornea President; Supports Strikes

AU0912170090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1617 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/12/1990—The city of Cluj-Napoca played host to the second convention of Romania's Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum which elected a 15-member Steering Board on which several political parties are represented. Doinea Cornea was elected president of the forum.

A state-of-the-nation statement was adopted by the convention, along with a call on different social segments to join the strikes initiated these days.

Steering Committee Elected

AU0912185990 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] The proceedings of the 11th convention of the Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum of Romania were held in Cluj-Napoca. On this occasion, the 15-member steering committee was elected, which incorporates representatives of several political parties. Doina Cornea was elected president of the Antitotalitarian Democratic Forum of Romania.

The convention adopted a statement in connection with the state of the nation. After examining the country's situation and expressing virulent criticism against the government, this statement demands that President Ion Iliescu dissolve the Parliament, dismiss the government, and tender his resignation—a situation in which the state power should be taken over by a National Steering Council.

The convention also adopted an appeal calling on various social strata to join the strikes that are to take place soon.

The ROMPRES correspondent in Cluj wanted to interview Mrs. Doina Cornea. This was not possible, because, he was told, Mrs. Doina Cornea was in Paris.

League of Professional Journalists Issues Protest

AU0712214390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1916 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—In a communique sent to ROMPRES, the National Council of the Romanian Professional Journalists' Union (RJU) feels

compelled to protest "against the attempt to pass in Parliament a law of the press from whose drafting our delegates and other journalists were excluded".

Any initiative that would lead to the exclusion of the RJU representatives from the dialogue with the parliament will be understood as an inadmissible, inconceivable restriction of the freedom of the press and free circulation of information, says the communique inter alia.

Jiu Valley Miners' Issue Protest Communique

AU0712214490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1922 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—In a communique the Executive Bureau of the Free Trade Union Organizations of the miners in Valea Jiului [Jiu Valley] expresses "its concern over the fact that in the last days an obvious attempt has been made to incite spirits, to use the economic situation for attaining political goals."

We consider, the communique further reads, that one of the factors contributing to that situation is also the Romanian Television. Many communiques sent by the League of the Free Trade Union Organizations of the miners in Valea Jiului have not been broadcast or have been partially presented which distorted their meaning.

Gas Distribution Company Protests Planned Strike

AU0812141390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1023 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—The natural gas distribution enterprises in Tirgu-Mures and Bucharest, in reference to the announced reduction by the Tirgu Mures Natural Gas Oil-Field's Free Union of the quantity of gas supplied to economic agents and households, warn in a joint statement of the serious effects that such an action could have—explosions, and disorders in the transport and distribution systems.

We, the joint statement says, regard the action that is planned to start on 12 December 1990 as a serious sabotage of the national economy.

Cherecheanu Appointed New Prosecutor General

AU0812192190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1842 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—Under a decree signed by Romania's President Mr. Gheorghe Robu was released from the office of prosecutor-general upon his own request.

Mr. Mihail Ulpiu Popa-Cherecheanu was appointed prosecutor-general of Romania.

Background Reported

AU0912154790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1505 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 9/12/1990—Romania's new prosecutor-general Mihail Ulpiu Popa-Cherecheanu, 50, has graduated from Bucharest's Law Faculty. Since 1975 he had been a military prosecutor's office. [as received] He held no leading position before the revolution. In May 1990 he was promoted chief prosecutor at the Bucharest Military Prosecutor's Office, a post he held until he was appointed prosecutor-general.

ADEVARUL Notes Aviation Industry's Problems

AU0712194390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1914 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—The experts of the National Center of the Romanian Aviation Industry (CNIAR) are concerned over the fact that the aviation industry in Romania is not expressly included by Law 15 among the strategic branches of the national economy which can be organized and operate as autonomous units, shows a poll in the daily "ADEVARUL".

We set forth our point of view when we agreed to CNIAR's proposal for the foundation of an autonomous aviation industry to include the aircraft manufacturing enterprise. The department of the machine building industry communicated us that the government did not agree to it and, hence, we should become a commercial company. We definitely maintain the idea that the aviation industry must function as a public corporation, the experts also say mentioning that the aviation industry benefits by high-skilled experts and equipment but all its organizational structures were broken off and there was no coordinating body whose attributions should not be mixed up with those of the former industrial centers.

In such conditions, they say, the aviation industry is in danger not because of the financial situation of its production units but because the existing technological basis cannot become actually useful and efficient for the assimilation into fabrication of highly complex products, as it is the case of ROMBAC [expansion unknown], unless it is centralized and used in accordance with the demands of enterprises. By coordinating financial resources with the demands of production in the aviation industry programmes can be implemented for the development and renewal of fabrication, the experts say.

In retaliation, the head of the machine-building department, Mr. Andrei Pintilie, considers that the setting up of a public corporation in the domain would mean to continue the system of state orders, competition would not occur and the past situation would maintain. Public corporations cannot conclude joint ventures with foreign firms. Such a thing can be done only by commercial companies which ensure thus managerial and marketing infusion, he said.

The difference between us and CNIAR is that they want to keep the state order system and we want to bring about a new attitude among enterprise managers.

International Human Rights Conference Opens

AU0812154790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1514 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—The first international conference of non-governmental organizations fighting for human rights opened in Bucharest on Saturday. It is sponsored by the Human Rights League of Romania.

In the attendance are delegations of non-governmental organizations fighting for human rights in the countries signatory to the Helsinki Final Act, representatives of specialized inter-governmental organizations and ambassadors.

Iliescu Issues Message

AU0812194390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1824 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—This year, the Human Rights Day on December 10 will be celebrated in this country, too, without any propaganda-like, ideological mystification, in full and real freedom, said Mr. Ion Iliescu in his message to the International Conference of Non-Governmental Human Rights Organizations under way in Bucharest.

A telling example in this respect is the organization by the Human Rights League of Romania of the current conference, which is intended to identify new ways and means of defending civic rights and freedoms.

The dictatorial regimes that dominated Romania for more than 50 years dwarfed the possibilities of free and purposeful assertion of the human personality, the message reads. The expansion of that injustice led to the outbreak of the December 1989 revolution, whose victory led to the liquidation of dictatorship, totalitarianism and economic and political centralism, to freedom of expression and action for all people, irrespective of their religion, nationality, sex and political opinions.

The process of consolidating democratic freedoms is difficult and an analysis of the sociopolitical and economic circumstances in which we live proves there still are situations in which human rights are violated, determine by a lack of knowledge of these rights or by faults in the democratic system.

Therefore, all our fellow countrymen should be educated in this sense since as long as man is unaware of these rights he will not be able to enjoy them. We must not forget that any citizen has duties to the collectivity and that it is only within the collectivity that the free and full accomplishment of his personality is possible, the message highlights.

Campeanu Comments on Visit to Switzerland

AU0812192890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1843 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—On Saturday Senator Radu Campeanu, chairman of the National Liberal Party, returned from a visit to Switzerland upon an invitation extended by the Swiss Parliament and the European Federation Presided by Mr. Giscard d'Estaing.

Upon arrival at the Otopeni Airport he made a statement for the press showing he had contacts with parliamentarians and front-rank politicians in Switzerland, with executives of the Council of Europe and with members up the commission in charge of the countries that are not members yet, with Mr. Peter Saager, chairman of that commission, with whom he had a detailed and serious talk on possibilities to grant Romania the status of an invited guest in January. We made public our opinion, the opinion of the opposition in general, that we wish to be accepted and to be granted that statute, Mr. Campeanu said. It is my impression that Romania will be granted an invited-guest status but it will have to fully observe the terms of true democracy, which any country approaching the Council of Europe should fulfil.

Asked about Romania's current image abroad, Mr. Radu Campeanu said: I was asked this question in Bern and Geneva, where I had a press conference, and I said we go on the path of democracy. I explained to them how the Parliament works, how parties may be created, and I made remarks in connection with the press and with the radio and television. It is our duty, the duty of the opposition, to contribute to a large extent to the effective rather than formal establishment of democracy, which should be instituted also on a spiritual, mental level.

Pro-Bessarabia Rally, Meeting Held in Bucharest

AU0812192390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1841 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 8/12/1990—A meeting of solidarity with Bessarabia was organized by the Bucharest-Kishinev Cultural Society in the Revolution Square in Bucharest on Saturday.

Mr. Gheorghe Gavrila Copil, chairman of that society, told the audience about the current situation in the Republic of Moldova, underscoring the need to support the aspirations of our brothers across the Prut after the maintenance of their territorial integrity and sovereignty.

Slogans such as "Bessarabia-A Romanian Land" and "Moscow You Shouldn't Forget Bessarabia Isn't Yours" were chanted.

Songs to the lines of Dimitru Mocovschi and Grigore Vieru, "Desteapta-te Romane" (Wake Up, Romanians) and the Union Hora were sung.

Bucharest's fifth district branch of the "Sf. Vineri" ["Saint Friday"] Charity Foundation of the National Liberal Party organized on Saturday a meeting with Bessarabian and Bukovinean children learning at the "Gheorghe Lazar" high-school to Mark St. Nicholas Day. They were offered gifts.

International Banking Seminar Concludes

AU0712214290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1918 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 7/12/1990—The international seminar organized by the World Bank in collaboration with Romania's Foreign Trade Department and its Chamber of Trade and Industry concluded in Bucharest on Friday [7 December]. It is the second seminar organized by the World Bank whose aim was to acquaint the Romanian economic agents with the methods and practices used to accomplish the projects financed by that organism.

Experts of the World Bank referred to modalities of identifying investment projects, of substantiating them, to aspects regarding negotiations with the World Bank for loans, the approval of those loans and the means of paying them back.

At the end of the seminar Mr. Nicolae Os, director general with the Department of Foreign Trade, said: we conclude today a period that familiarized us with a number of facilities the World Bank makes available for the beneficiaries of its investments. The talks we have had are particularly helpful now when the access to information is an essential component of the transformation of our economy.

Voting Begins in 1st Serbian Multiparty Elections

LD0912090190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0747 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Voting in the first multiparty elections in Serbia started at 0700 this morning. There are over 9,500 polling stations in 250 electoral wards. According to the republic's Electoral Commission, there are over 6.8 million names on the electoral register, with 1.5 million of this number in Vojvodina and 955,000 in Kosovo.

The electorate is asked to elect the president of the republic from 32 officially endorsed candidates and 250 deputies, including 56 for Vojvodina and 34 for Kosovo. Each voter has been given two ballot papers: a blue one with the names of presidential candidates and a white one with the names of candidates for Assembly deputies. Instructions on ballot papers explain that the voter is either to check the number under which a candidate is entered or to encircle the candidate's name. If several candidates are checked, the ballot paper will be invalid. In Vojvodina, ballot papers have been printed in five languages; in Kosovo, two.

The elections will be considered valid if at least half of the electorate votes. A candidate who receives a simple majority of the votes cast will be elected a deputy.

If no candidate is elected in the first round of voting, the second round will most likely take place on 23 December. In the rerun the voters will have to choose between at least two candidates who will have received the most votes in the first round. The voting will continue to be repeated until one of the candidates receives the envisaged number of votes.

Similar procedures will be used for the election of the president of the republic. If, in the first round of voting, no candidate receives the necessary majority of votes, the voting will be repeated and the choice will be between at least two candidates who will have gained most votes in the first round, providing at least 50 percent of the electorate has voted.

According to latest reports, voting is proceeding in a calm atmosphere. Polling stations are scheduled to close at 1900. The results will be processed by the computer center of the republic's Statistics Institute. In addition, a special council is in continuing session in Serbia's Supreme Court with the task of resolving possible conflicting situations and to protect the election interests of the participating parties.

The elections are being monitored by 65 observers from six countries, including the U.S. delegation to the CSCE, a group of U.S. congressmen, and representatives of Canada, Austria, among other countries. Around 360 domestic and 170 foreign journalists are in Serbia to cover the elections.

The first tunout results are expected to be announced this evening no earlier than two hours after the polling stations close [no earlier than 2000 GMT]. The first official election results should be known on Tuesday evening [11 December].

Jovic Votes, Praises Elections

LD0912121590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1149 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslav State Presidency President Dr. Borisav Jovic today expressed satisfaction that he was voting in the first post-war multi-party elections in Serbia.

After casting his ballots for Serbia's president and parliament members at a polling station in the Belgrade municipality Vracar, Jovic told reporters: "It is a holiday in Serbia today, just as it always has been when we had elections. Today's holiday is even more festive, since we are participating in the first free multi-party elections. That is the very reason why great importance should be attached to the elections. The voters in Serbia will elect from among the candidates for the people's deputies and president of the republic those who will work and successfully resolve our problems."

Good Early Turnout Reported

LD0912132890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1236 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—The first multiparty elections in Serbia are taking place as planned in over 9,500 polling stations. In many areas over 50 percent of registered voters have already cast their vote.

In mountainous regions, elections are also proceeding as planned despite deep snow. At one polling station in Crna Bara near Aleksinac over 70 percent of votes were cast by 1000. There was also a large turnout in the villages of Tesica, Nozrina, and Zitkovac in the River Morava valley. In the municipalities of Timocka Krajina region over 70,000 peroples voted by 1100. Over 30,000 people have already cast their vote at three polling stations in the municipalities of Vranje and Trgoviste.

Throughout Vojvodina the voting has been proceeding as planned. There were some problems caused mainly by voters forgetting to bring their identity cards.

A large number of workers working abroad has turned out to vote.

Voting is also taking place in 34 electoral wards in Kosovo. So far there has been a small turnout of Albanians alone, although some voters of Albanian nationality did exercise their right to vote in Strbac, Prizren, Malisevo, and Djakovica.

At a polling station in Pristina, ballot papers in Turkish have not been available. The election committee has promised to rectify this mistake soon. In Djakovica and

some other localities the mainly Albanian election committees refused to accept election documents and papers so that voting had to be transferred to other polling stations.

Small Albanian Turnout Noted

LD0912142890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1343 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Pristina, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—According to incomplete reports, by 1400 the first multiparty elections in Kosovo and Metohija were proceeding peacefuly. Although the majority of Albanians has refused to go to the polls, a small number has nevertheless voted.

In view of the fact that the Albanians make up almost 80 percent of the electorate in the province, if, by 1900, they fail to vote, the voting in the majority of 34 electoral wards will not be successful and will have to be repeated in 14 days.

It is estimated that the voting will be successful in, at most, nine electoral wards where the national composition is such that providing all non-Albanian population votes en masse the outcome will not affect the final results.

Albanians Said Boycotting Vote

AU0912145990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Milivoje Mihajlovic report]

[Text] There are about 1,000 polling stations open in Kosovo and Metohija. The turnout in the communes populated by Serbs and Montenegrins appears to be high, while Albanians are mainly boycotting the elections.

According to the provincial Election Commission, about 50 percent of the registered voters voted in Lipljan this morning. A similar situation was in Leposavic, Kosovo Polje, and Strbac. Almost 90 percent of Serbs and Montenegrins voted in Serbica by 1200. There were only 11 Albanians who cast their votes. In Djakovica, 80 percent of Serbs and Montenegrin voted. In the constituency which includes Kosovsaka Kamenica and Novo Brdo, out of the 74 polling stations, only 43 were opened. Almost one half of Serbs and Montenegrins voted in those communes.

The lowest turnout was reported in Malisevo, which is an almost ethnically pure commune. The few Albanians who expressed the wish to vote were offered transportation to the next constituency.

In the communes which are populated exclusively by Albanians, members of the Electoral Commission refused to accept election material and in some places even to open polling stations.

In Kosovo there are about 910,000 voters of which some 700,000 are Albanians. There are 109 candidates competing for 34 deputy seats. In most places the elections are controlled by the members of opposition parties. We have learned that the elections in Kosovo and Metohija are also being followed by two secretaries of the U.S. Embassy from Belgrade, as well as one congressman, and the representatives of the Swedish Embassy. There are seven accredited journalists from abroad.

'Symbolic' Albanian Turnout Noted

LD0912154690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1520 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Pristina, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—According to data from the election monitoring headquarters in Djakovica [Kosovo], all 15 polling stations have been open since this morning. In this municipality, inhabited predominantly by Albanians, it has mainly been only Serbs and Montenegrins voting, while the number Albanians who have been voted has been symbolic.

In Podujevo, predominantly settled by Albanians, 11 out of the 12 polling stations are open. By 1400 over 80 percent of Podujevo citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality and only 13 members of Albanian nationality had voted.

Individual cases of Albanians turning out to vote in the elections have also been recorded in other environments.

Repeat Election Said Probable

LD1012005290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1938 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Pristina, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—A small number of Kosovo's ethnic Albanians turned out for Sunday's voting in the first postwar multiparty elections in Serbia, the republic whose province Kosovo is.

Ethnic Albanians, who make up almost 80 per cent of the province's electorate, boycotted the elections in areas where they are in overwhelming majority, whereas a small number of them voted in mixed-population areas and towns.

Unless a larger number of voters show up at the polling stations by this evening, voting in most of the 34 election districts in Kosovo would have to be repeated in two weeks' time.

Observers expect the voting to be valid in a maximum of nine election districts with predominantly Serbian and Montenegrin population.

Suggestions to boycott the elections in Kosovo have been made to the ethnic Albanians lately by the parties rallying members of this nationality.

A large number of people, reacting in places up to 85 per cent of registered voters, turned out for voting in the areas populated overwhelmingly by Serbs and Montenegrins.

On the other hand, only 13 Serbs of about the 25,000 registered voters went to the polling booths in Glogovac, a commune populated almost entirely by ethnic Albanians, until this afternoon.

Officials refused to open poling stations or to admit ballots in a number of places inhabited largely by ethnic Albanians.

The elections in Kosovo are monitored by foreign observers. Polling stations have been visited by two secretaries of the U.S. Embassy, a U.S. congressman and representatives of the Czechoslovak and Swiss Embassies.

Hours Extended To Accomodate Long Lines

LD0912215690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1759 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Because of the big lines in front of polling stations in the first multiparty elections in Serbia, all polling stations will probably not be closed by 1900.

This was stated this evening by Zoran Djumic, a spokesman of the republican Electoral Commission. All voters who turned out to vote must be allowed to vote, regardless of whether the envisaged deadline has passed. These instructions from the republican Electoral Commission have been sent to all polling stations, Djumic stressed.

Unofficial Reports Place Milosevic in Lead

AU1012094290 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0900 GMT 10 Dec 90

[Text] All polling stations in 250 constituencies of the first multiparty elections held in Serbia since the war closed last night at 2100 [2000 GMT]. The conclusion of the first round of elections has also concluded the electoral silence. Aleksandar Ljubicic reports from the republican Electoral Commission:

[Ljubicic] People in the republican Electoral Commission have so far refused to give any information about the elections in Serbia. They say that they will say everything at the news conference at 1200 [1100 GMT]. However, as we have learned from unofficial sources, presidential candidate Slobodan Milosevic is leading in most large places in Serbia: Gornji Milanovac, Zajecar, Pozega, Priboj, Uzice, and so on.

We were told by the opposition that they have no information on which to base a determination concerning who has the advantage so far. They did say, however, that Slobodan Milosevic, as a presidential candidate, and the Socialist Party are leading. The Democratic Party people have stated that, according to what they could learn, the party's leaders, Dr. Dragoljub Micunovic, Vojislav Kostunica, and Zoran Djindjic will take part in the second round of the elections.

Official Results Expected 10 Dec

AU0912215590 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Aleksandar Ljubicic report on Serbian Electoral Commission news conference in Belgrade]

[Text] As you said, the news conference has just ended. It was chaired by Caslav Ignjatovic, president of the republican election conference. At the beginning he said that he did not have even the initial official results of the elections held today. The only certain thing is that the turnout was high and that the elections passed without any more serious incidents. People had to wait a long time to vote because electoral commissions tried to properly check the identity of every voter.

Journalists asked various questions, but very few were met with, as journalists say, satisfactory answers. The usual reply was that the republican Electoral Commission did not have information and that the first official results will be announced tomorrow at 1200 [1100 GMT].

The news conference was also attended by Helen Bentley Delich from the U.S. Congress, who is here as an observer. She drew particular attention from journalists and television cameras.

Serb Preelection Blackout 'Violated' by Milosevic

LD0812222390 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Although it is said in the Kosovo Electoral Commission that everything is ready for the first multiparty elections in Serbia, the preelection blackout was by all accounts violated in this province today. In fact, the program "Tribune" ["Forum"] a Serbian language broadcast of Radio Pristina, carried the speech of Slobodan Milosevic in Novi Sad, who is one of the candidates for president of Serbia.

Radio, TV Union Protests 'Preferential Treatment'

LD0912230590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1804 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Journalists, producers, and editors employed in Belgrade Television's third channel dissociate themselves from the crude and impermissible violation of program schedules and the preferential treatment given to the ruling party and its candidates for deputy. Thus they have called for the replacement of Ivan Krivec, the channel's editor in chief.

This is stressed in a statement by the independent trade union of Belgrade Radio and Television (RTB) in connection with a dialogue between Ivan Krivec and journalist Mila Stula, which was broadcast on this channel on 6 December. The statement says that because of the dialogue all previously announced programs were cancelled and that the dialogue was "guided and supervised

by Dusan Mitevic from his office and that he phoned in several times giving instructions and dictating questions."

Mila Stula's speech was evaluated in the statement as being "a dialogue devoid of all good taste, full of insults to opposition parties."

The statement also mentions that on 6 December Belgrade Television Director Sergej Sestakov banned the broadcast of a report on from the promotion meeting of six parties in the third daily news bulletin [broadcast immediately before midnight] which represents the violation of law and election regulations.

The independent Trade Union reiterated its demand for the replacement of RTB Director General Dusan Mitevic, Belgrade Television Director Sergej Sestakov, and News and Current Affairs Editor-in-Chief Predrag Vitas.

Renaissance Movement To Limit Results Recognized

LD0912135790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1257 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—The Serbian Renaissance Movement [Srpski Pokret Obnovoe—SPO] will recognize only today's election results between 0700 and 1900 [0600 and 1800 GMT] and only those from polling stations where members of its party sat on the electoral commissions, Vuk Draskovic, chairman of the SPO and a candidate for president, stated after voting at the polling station at No. 59 Gocka Street.

Draskovic objected to the fact that, as some are claiming, elections were carried out throughout Serbia as early as yesterday and even the day before yesterday, which is in contravention of the electoral law and is a unique event in the world, and also in other parts of Yugoslavia.

"How and why they voted, and the number of those who voted, is known only by them," Draskovic said to the numerous domestic and foreign journalists, and added that "in this way what the opposition won through its threatened boycott in practical terms was circumvented yesterday."

The SPO chairman believes that this is "yet further proof in support of the conviction that the Socialist Party of Serbia intends to hold on to power at all costs." He was explicit in saying that the SPO "will not sign the final reports of the commissions if yesterday's votes are also included in them," which, he concluded, "is tantamount to an irregularity and means repeat elections."

Election Irregularities Protested

LD0912161890 Belgrade TANJUG Dometic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1524 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—The Serbian Renaissance Movement [SPO] is announcing that it has proof and witnesses that voting took place yesterday in apartments, enterprises, hospitals, and institutions. The votes of deceased and nonexistent people were "converted." Voting also took place in the Army and among police.

In a statement sent to TANJUG, the SPO also says that Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] activists yesterday inundated Dimitrovgrad and nearby places with leaflets in which they duped the Bulgarian minority and sowed fear through allegations that, in the event of an SPO victory, all Bulgarians would be forced to go to Bulgaria. In Petrovac on the [river] Mlava leaflets were distributed that frighten voters and call on them not to vote for the ostensible Chetniks of the SPO representatives have been kicked out of several electoral commissions and election committees in Kosovo, and the SPO has informed the republican Electoral Commission about this. [passage omitted]

Ascribing all responsibility for the consequences of such actions that bring the legitimacy of the elections into question to the SPS, the SPO appealed to foreign observers and the democratic public of the world to help Serbian democracy. An appeal is also made to the public of Serbia and to all voters in Serbia to live up to the seriousness of this historical moment.

Draskovic Comments on Alleged Violations

AU0912211890 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2027 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Interview with Serbian Renewal Movement President Vuk Draskovic by Dragan Stavljanin on the elections in Serbia; place and date not given]

[Text] [Stavljanin] How do you assess the elections that have just ended?

[Draskovic] I have already said that the shadow of great irregularities hangs over them. The elections were absolutely irregular in Kosovo and Metohija, in the Army, and the police. All the (?voting) that took place yesterday and the day before yesterday is criminal, illegal; it was done in the dark, in a tunnel, and we will not recognize this.

[Stavljanin] Will you ask for a repeat of (?these elections)?

[Draskovic] Of course.

[Stavljanin] Does the irregularity in these places, in your view, affect the total sum of votes? Will this affect the final outcome?

[Draskovic] I have already said that in this way they are securing 15 percent of the deputy seats in Kosovo and Metohija alone. Just think how many soldiers there are, how many people voted yesterday, how many students were prevented from voting. We are already talking about hundreds of thousands people. At the beginning

they deprived us of at least 1,500,000 votes by not allowing Serbs living abroad to vote.

[Stavljanin] Does this mean that you already think that you have lost the elections?

[Draskovic] Of course not. We won even before the elections. They may celebrate the election victory won in this way but they will end up like the Bulgarians or Iliescu will end up.

[Stavljanin] Will the second round be decisive?

[Draskovic] It should be, but I think that they will make sure and that they have made sure in various ways that the president and deputies are (?elected) in the first round [words indistinct].

I am not guessing, I know their plans, strategy, and aim which must be, as they say, achieved at any price regardless of everything.

[Stavljanin] All in all, after the second round the final results for the president and deputies....

[Draskovic] Nothing will be the same in Serbia tomorrow. [words indistinct]. The results of the elections do not have any importance in case the communists win.

[Stavljanin] Do you think that new elections will be held in a few months time?

[Draskovic] There will be elections but they may not be taking part in the elections as the party in power because they will be kicked out by the people before the elections.

[Stavljanin] Thank you Mr. Draskovic.

[Draskovic] (?I am not forecasting, I may be wrong).

Opposition News Conference Held

AU0912192690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Nebojsa Spajic report on United Serbian Opposition news conference on 9 December; place not given]

[Text] At this moment a great shadow of falsification hangs over the elections in Serbia. This was stated by Vuk Draskovic, leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement, at the news conference organized by the representatives of the Democratic Party, the Alliance of Reform Forces of Yugoslavia for Serbia, the Association for Yugoslav Democratic Initiative, the New Democracy, the Movement for Serbia, the People's Radical Party, the St. Sava Party, and the Democratic Forum.

With this statement Draskovic extended the number of examples of irregularities at some polling stations that were presented by Dragoljub Micunovic, president of the Democratic Party.

The Democratic Party has sent a list of 24 objections to the republican Electoral Commission. At 10 polling stations, as stated, people voted without an identity card or other document that could prove their identity. He also said that there were frequent cases of agitation by members of the Socialist Party of Serbia. At the polling station number 112 in (?Pozarevac), as he claimed, they directly told the voters which candidate to vote for. He also mentioned the cases of electoral lists including the names of deceased people, and said that representatives of opposition parties who are in electoral commissions are being threatened, and so forth.

Micunovic said that these violations are perhaps minor, but that their number is worrying. As a more important fact he mentioned a report according to which students in Belgrade are being moved to new rooms this weekend and that therefore as many as 15,000 of them were unable to return home to vote. When one adds to this the votes of soldiers and ballots from Kosovo, which are controlled by the militia, it is clear that all this could significantly influence the results of the elections.

The news conference is still going on.

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votes of soldiers and ballots from Kosovo, which are controlled by the militia, it is clear that all this could significantly influence the results of the elections.

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Slovene Ministers Say Army Plans Provocations

LD0712200590 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1727 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—At a news conference today, republican National Defense Secretary Janez Jansa, and Internal Affairs Secretary Igor Bavcar spoke about the security situation in the Republic of Slovenia and the Army's politicization. Jansa noted the possibility of military incidents in Slovenia and said that, according to their information, early next week the Yugoslav Peoples' Army (JNA) might stage provocative incidents in this republic.

These incidents, it was explained, would seek to challenge the legitimacy of the authorities in the republic and negatively influence the results of the plebiscite.

On this occasion Janez Jansa stressed that the denouement of the Yugoslav crisis is approaching its last stage. In his opinion, there are various scenarios, even some which do not stem from the belief that it is necessary to respect the results of free and democratic elections in Yugoslavia's republic.

Janez Jansa also spoke about the Army's interference on the eve of the elections in Serbia, something, he said, that was apparent in Federal Secretary for National Defense Veljko Kadijevic's interview.

Speaking about the League of Communists-Movement for Yugoslavia, Janez Jansa stresed that this party's statute had stated that its program closely resembled that of the Socialist Party of Serbia [Socijalisticka Partija Srbije] and that this had been discarded on a later occasion.

Igor Bavcar, internal affairs minister in the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, said today that the Military Security Service in Slovenia was overstepping its authority and infringing on the realm of human rights and freedoms.

The top brass, in Igor Bavcar's opinion, fail to recognize the legal institutions of the Slovene authorities, something that is suggested by the document of the Federal Secretariat for National Defense "Guidelines on the Methods and Means of Work of the JNA's Security Organs", as he said.

In Igor Bavcar's words, we can expect a great deal of misinformation over the coming days, of which some has already been launched, such as the one "that the Slovene Government is cooperating with the Trend enterprize [recent financial scandal involving several thousand customers] and importing, via Sandi Grubelic, weapons from Italy and that a great number of ministers are taking part in this company's behind-the-scenes dealings."

Jansa Views Army Document

AU0712192890 Ljubljana Radio Slovene Network in Slovene 1459 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Respected listeners, we have just received a report on the news conference held by the republican secretaries for national defense and internal affairs, Janez Jansa and Igor Bavcar. They spoke about some recent events concerning Army activities.

Janez Jansa said that there are two concepts for solving the Yugoslav constitutional crisis. The first option implies a peaceful road and the other one which, as he says, is advocated by the Army, wants to preserve the existing situation even by force.

Evidence for this lies in the fact that the Army fails to respect the legal Slovene authorities. This is also proven by an Army document adopted in November which speaks about the way to solve the crisis that rightist forces are causing in Slovenia. The document is meant for low-ranking operational officers and envisages even the use of chemicals and arms.

Various disinformation which is meant to cause fear among the people has also been appearing.

According to Janez Jansa, some volatile situations may also arise, which is something we may expect in the beginning of the next week. [Words indistinct] have expressed hope that this will not happen and that common sense will prevail.

World Slovene Congress Formed in Ljubljana

LD0812150290 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1203 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Summary] Ljubljana, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—A republican conference of the World Slovene Congress [Svetski Slovenacki Kongress] was founded in Ljubljana today [8 December] in the presence of top representatives of the republic and Slovenes living in Italy, Austria, and elsewhere. It was agreed that a congress should be held in Ljubljana in June of next year. Similar conferences have been founded in countries with Slovene populations, for example, Australia, Canada, and the United States, with the aim of uniting Slovenes, irrespective of their political affiliations and wartime differences.

Slovene, Croat Leaders Agree on Sovereignty Need

LD0812090490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2130 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Celje, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—Successful emergence from the Yugoslav crisis is possible only through a democratic agreement accompanied by respect for the full autonomy and sovereignty of the republics. This was

stressed by Milan Kucan, president of the Presidency of Slovenia, and Dr. Franjo Tudjman, president of the Presidency of Croatia, in this evening's talks with citizens in Celje, where they were the guests of the "Celje Dinner Party."

Milan Kucan and Dr. Franjo Tudjman advocated a new historical contract which would create on the territory of Yugoslavia some kind of new economic community along the lines of the EC. This would also be in keeping with the general processes in the world, which make for integration in terms of civilization and economics, but allow for national individuality.

'Widespread' Mobilization Reported in Knin

AU0912213990 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Dragan Miholic report from Knin region]

[Text] A widespread mobilization of primarily reserve militiamen has been noticed in the Knin region and the communes of Zadar, Benkovac, Sibenik, and other places. At the same time well-armed special militiamen are patrolling places and from time to time carry thorough checks of passenger cars and passengers.

The Knin-based Serbian National Council tonight issued a statement with regard to this asking the Serbian people in Croatia not to take part in any kind of armed formations or in the newly formed republican armies.

Serb National Council Reacts

LD0912235490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1928 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Knin, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—In connection with officially not as yet confirmed news on the alleged mobilization of the reserve police force and newly founded constabulary forces in Croatia [redarstvene snage], the Knin-based Presidium of the Serbian National Council issued a special statement, saying:

"Proceeding from the fact that the election sovereignty [izborni suverenitet] belongs to the state of the SFRY, and that republican constitutions and laws must be in accordance with the federal Constitution and laws, we maintain that it is contrary to the Constitution and to the law to form parallel armed forces, or in other words independent republican armies. We support the legal stand of the federal secretary for national defense, Army General Veljko Kadijevic, in connection with a need to disarm all illegally formed army formations," the statement stresses, among other things, and goes on to say that the Serbian people living in the federal Republic of Croatia opted for its autonomous status within Croatia, and for the preservation of the Yugoslav federation.

In its conclusion, the statement of the Presidium of the Serbian National Council calls on all members of the Serbian people living in the Republic of Croatia not to join any armed formations that would be used against the unity of the Yugoslav federation and its people's army.

The statement was signed by Dr. Milan Babic, president of the Serbian National Council.

Croat Assembly Proclaims Christmas Holidays

LD0712213590 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1731 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—The parliament of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia decided today that December 25 should be declared a non-working day in the republic. This is the first time after World War Two that Christmas was officially proclaimed a national holiday in Yugoslavia.

The parliament also decided that January 7, the day when Christian Orthodox believers celebrate Christmas, should be a non- working day for them. Muslims and members of other religious communities can also mark their main religious holidays in a similar way.

According to the 1981 poll, Croatia's population stands at 4,600,000, of whom 3,454,000 are Croats (mainly Roman Catholics), 531,000 Serbs (Christian Orthodox) and Muslims 23,700.

First Montenegrin Multiparty Elections Held

LD0912091390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0624 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Titograd, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—At 0700 the 920 polling stations in Montenegro opened and the voting began to elect the president of the republic, members of the republic's Presidency, deputies to the republic's parliament, and deputies to municipal assemblies.

There are three candidates on the list for president of the Presidency, 14 for members of the Presidency, and 563 candidates for 125 seats in the future one-camera parliament of the republic.

According to incomplete figures by the republic's Electoral Commission, 389,455 registered voters will have the right to cast their vote today.

Polling stations will close at 1900 this evening, but severe weather conditions in the northern part of Montenegro will probably affect the voting and may delay the processing of the results.

Final Round of Macedonian Elections Held 9 Dec

LD0912155790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1357 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Skopje, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—According to the latest figures of the republican Electoral Commission, today's voting for the remaining 26 deputies' seats in the future unicameral multiparty parliament in Macedonia is taking place normally, without problems. The only

difficulty is over the collection of data from several Bitola villages as result of deep snow.

Citizens on Macedonia are today in factual terms completing the electoral procedure. So far, in the first multiparty elections in this republic, 88 deputies have been elected, and of these the Internal Macedonian Revolutionary Organization - Democratic Party of Macedonian National Unity have 29 seats, the Macedonian League of Communists - Party for Democratic Transformation have 24 seats, the Reformists have 15, the Party for Democratic Prosperity of Macedonia [Partija za Demokratski Prosperitet Makedonije] have 17, and the Socialist Party have three.

Today a further 26 deputies are to be elected from among 89 candidate of 10 political parties. The Macedonian Supreme Court is still considering the complaints against six elected candidates in the first and second electoral rounds.

The final results of the elections and the configuration of forces in the first Macedonian multiparty parliament will be known in week's time.

Results Expected 11 Dec

LD1012004190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2310 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Skopje, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—The first postwar multiparty elections in Yugoslavia's Republic of Macedonia which started one and a half month ago, ended this evening with third-round voting for the remaining 26 seats in the republican parliament.

Preliminary results will be announced on Tuesday, December 11, and final a week from today, the republican vote-counting commission said tonight.

So far, 88 candidates have secured seats in the future unicameral Macedonian parliament. Most seats—29—were taken by the nationally-oriented Internal Macedonian revolutionary Organization- Democratic Party for National Unity (VMRO-DPMNE).

The League of Communists of Macedonia-Party of Democratic Transformation (SKM-PDP) won 24 seats, the Democratic Prosperity Party which rallies ethnic Albanians 17, and the Alliance of Reformist Forces of Macedonia initiated by Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic 15.

Police intervened today in Kicevo, Western Macedonia, where Democratic Prosperity Party members campaigned during the voting trying to persuade the voters from whom to cast their ballots.

LE MONDE Item on Kosovo Situation Condemned

LD0812142890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1258 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Paris, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Paris Embassy press advisor De. Vladimir Prvulovic on Saturday [8 December] sent a letter to the French daily LE MONDE in which he, on behalf of the Yugoslav Embassy, "strongly protests over the headline and the intentions of the editorial article 'Apartheid in Kosovo'."

The article in LE MONDE speaks about the "rule of Serbian law" and massive lay-offs of ethnic Albanians who said they favored the province of Kosovo to become a republic. The article claims that there were at present some 400 political prisoners in this province, which is part of the Republic of Serbia.

In his letter, Dr. Prvulovic describes this as a "political platform of ethnic Albanian extremists and separatists," which LE MONDE too mentions, but places them in quotation marks. The embassy letter does not deny the right of the daily to quotation marks, but notes that following the "same freedom of expression" it should have placed the claims about apartheid in Kosovo also in quotation marks, because "they in no way correspond to the truth."

Prvulovic asks why LE MONDE refused to publish any one argument to the contrary by the Serbian authorities, or data about the activities of ethnic Albanian extremists and separatists since 1981. "Does this mean that your journalist was completely denying the existence of the (ethnic Albanian) extremists and separatists in Kosovo," Prvulovic asked the French daily.

The letter also points out to LE MONDE that it was "inappropriate to publish an article headlined and intoned in this manner on eve of the first postwar free and multi-party elections in Serbia."

Markovic on Economy, Army Role, Soviet Migration

LD0712235490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2240 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Ljubljana, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic said at a news conference in Ljubljana this evening that Yugoslavia and Hungary would have to pay and economic and social price for their social and economic reforms, which, he said, would last a long time in both countries and take place in dramatic circumstances.

Markovic, who has returned from a one-day visit to Hungary, said that the neighboring country was in regard to its social and economic transformation several years behind Yugoslavia. He said Hungary's foreign-currency reserves were only one-tenth of Yugoslavia's and the country had no developed commodity market.

Here in Yugoslavia "We must stop occupying ourselves with our divisions and try to understand how to overcome our crisis and bring to completion the already initiated processes with the lowest possible risk," Markovic said.

In response to a question by a Hungarian journalist during his visit to Hungary about the recent statement by Yugoslav Defense Secretary General Veljko Kadijevic that the military would not allow the disintegration of the socialist system in Yugoslavia, Markovic said the statement concerned the appearance of armed units outside the legal structures.

There are in the legal system of every country—and that includes Yugoslavia—both a police and a military, and no-one can take over their role and duties, Markovic said.

Asked about the anticipated major wave of migration from the Soviet Union, the Yugoslav prime minister said that Yugoslavia as a country with a relatively plentiful supply of consumer goods was already faced with that problem.

We shall on account of this have to take steps to ease that pressure, if indeed it does take place, Markovic said. Nevertheless, the economic problems of a country must be resolved within it and not outside it, Markovic concluded in his meeting with newsmen in Budapest.

Federal Budget Allots $1 Billion for Agriculture

LD0712154990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1527 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—About one billion dollars will be allocated from next year's federal budget for stimulating production in the agricultural sector. Federal Agriculture Minister Stevo Mirjanic told the Committee for Agriculture of the federal parliament.

A bill regulating all questions related to stimulations in agriculture envisages a transition from farm price support to premiums for eight basic agriculture products. The government is elaborating a system of price protection for the ten most important agricultural products, and the so-called indicative prices to serve as an orientation for imports and other forms of intervention.

The bill is expected to be enacted by the end of the year.

The government believes that premiums for market-oriented agricultural production would stimulate stock breeding and overall production in the sector, help overcome protectionist barriers on the world market, and generate more foreign currency revenues from the export of farm products.

Yugoslavia plans to earn about 1.4 billion dollars from the export of farm products and foodstuffs next year.

Economic Policy Report for 1991 Presented

LD0712212490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1650 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—The political consolidation of the country is a necessary precondition for the efficient implementation of the measures of the government's economic policy in 1991, the cabinet of Prime Minister Ante Markovic has assessed.

In the document "Macroeconomic Policy in 1991," which the government today presented to federal parliament, it is assessed that such consolidation would achieve two important goals.

Conditions would be created for the unhindered functioning of a unique Yugoslav market of labour, goods and capital, which, the government assessed, it a precondition for the efficient operation of the economic system, and also for attracting foreign capital which is necessary for reviving investments.

The government assesses that at least 2-2.5 billion dollars of capital are necessary for beginning structural changes in the Yugoslav economy. Without this, Markovic's cabinet maintains, the drop in investments next year would be much bigger than this year's 10 percent.

According to the document, which has been revealed today, the macroeconomic policy for 1991 starts from the same model with which the government began a market-oriented economic reform early this year.

The federal government plans that inflation in 1991 will be reduced to 20 percent (this year the rate of inflation was reduced from almost 3,000 to 118 percent thanks to the government program). Markovic and his collaborators will maintain the convertibility of the national currency, the dinar, and its rate of exchange at seven dinars for one German mark.

Next year, the government also plans to continue to liberalize economic relations with foreign countries, reduce total expenditures to realistic frameworks, begin the process of the financial reorganization of banks, and implement an even more restrictive monetary policy and a more active social policy.

The government does not plan to limit salaries, but their increase will be preconditioned by the productivity and economic results of the respective firms.

Minister on Foreign Currency Reserve Situation

LD0912122890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1200 GMT 9 Dec 90

[Text] Novi Sad, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslavia's foreign currency reserves now stand at around nine billion dollars, compared to more than 10 billion dollars in August, and still exceed the real needs, Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Zivko Pregl told the Novi Sad Hungarian-language daily MAGYAR SZO.

Pregl explained that the foreign currency reserves have decreased due to the absence of 1.3 billion dollars in Iraqi payments to Yugoslav firms, and Yugoslav's interest to buy foreign currencies and the bank's lack of interest to sell them.

Pregl said that the people's interest to buy foreign currencies will result in a decrease in their personal spending, which will in turn narrow down space for price increases of domestic goods and also inflation. He called on citizens to save and value the dinar, adding it would not be devalued.

Yugoslavia this year repaid around 3.5 billion dollars of its dues, and its foreign debt now stands at 16 billion dollars—it has been reduced by two billion dollars, Pregl said.

Speaking on novelties in the economic policy next year, Pregl announced a financial rehabilitation of banks which will thus enable a more selective monetary policy, so that sound banks will have more money to give to successful firms.

He also announced the possibility of Yugoslav firms seeking loans abroad and thus getting cheaper money than this year.

Government Not To Engage in 'Political Disputes'

LD0712213490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1855 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government will not get involved in the current political disputes in the country, but will, rather, make practical moves to create conditions for the restoration of mutual trust. For this reason, it is not getting involved in the federation-or-confederation dilemma—Federal Vice-Premier Zivko Pregl said here today.

Addressing the commanding officers of the 5th Army District (which has jurisdiction in the Republics of Slovenia and Croatia), Pregl said that "the world does not see Yugoslavia as a country in which some parts are more democratic than others, but as a country whose people are unable to agree with each other."

Pregl said that the Yugoslav Government would not accept the demand to devaluate the dinar, "because it is not economically justified and because it would only pave the way for inflation to spiral again."

As of January 1 this year, the dinar has been pegged to the German mark at an exchange rate of 7 to 1.

Supply and demand on the money market show that the dinar is still in greater demand than foreign currencies, said Pregl.

Pregl said that the country's foreign currency reserves now stand at 8.5 billion dollars, which is, according to international criteria, two billion more than required for the country's full external solvency.

Loncar Welcomes Iraqi Decision on Hostages

LD0812135990 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1313 GMT 8 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar on Saturday [8 December] described as a significant contribution towards a political and peaceful solution to the gulf crisis the decision of the Iraqi parliament to allow without delay foreign nationals in Iraq and Kuwait to leave if they so wished.

As foreign secretary of the country currently chairing the movement of nonalignment, Loncar set out that the decision, at the proposal of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, would surely have a positive effect on the creation of favorable conditions and atmosphere prior to the meetings Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz is to have in Washington with ranking U.S. officials, to be devoted to peaceful solution in the gulf crisis.

Loncar assessed that by solving the gulf crisis by peaceful means conditions would have been created for a comprehensive and lasting solution to the Middle East crisis and especially the Palestinian question at an international conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the United Nations.

The Yugoslav foreign secretary emphasized that the movement of nonalignment would, as it has also done thus far, strive to provide its contribution to the efforts toward solving the [word indistinct].

Kuwaiti Delegation Confident of Iraqi Withdrawal

LD0712200190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1757 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—Iraq has no choice but to leave Kuwait, and we hope this will be very soon, members of a Kuwaiti National Conference delegation said a press conference on Friday [7 December], at the end of a two-day visit to Yugoslavia.

Talking to reporters at Kuwait's Embassy in Belgrade, members of the delegation corroborated their hopes by citing the U.N. Security Council resolutions, actions by the nonaligned countries and condemnation of Iraq by the entire international community.

Regardless of its unqualified support to the Council resolutions, the Kuwaiti Government holds that Iraq should not be given more chances, as it would mean extending its occupation of Kuwait, the delegation said.

It is therefore with unconcealed hopes that Kuwait awaits January 15, the deadline set by the Security Council for Iraq's withdrawal from that country.

The members of the Kuwaiti delegation were also confident that this time Baghdad would act on the Council resolutions because "it has no other choice."

They supported that rather optimistic expectation by citing Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's decision to release all foreign hostages, held in Iraq since the aggression on Kuwait.

According to them, the decision, marking the beginning of an end of Kuwait's agony, was brought about due to the United Nations rather than Iraqi.

The Kuwaitis also said Saddam made the decision under pressure from Jordan, Sudan, Morocco and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

On their visit to Yugoslavia, the head of the delegation, Yusuf Yossen al-Haji said: "The occupation made us draw up a list of our friends and enemies. We set priorities on the list of our friends, and they include Yugoslavia. We thought it was our duty to come to Belgrade, express our gratitude to the Yugoslav Government for its support and acquaint it with the [word indistinct] situation in Kuwait," he said.

Loncar Returns From Visit to Germany

LD0812070190 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2243 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Budimir Loncar this afternoon ended his working visit to Germany and returned to Belgrade. During the brief visit, Loncar conferred with Bonn's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher on bilateral cooperation and Yugoslavia's relations with Europe. Loncar also had talks in Bonn with Honorary President of the Social Democratic Party Willy Brandt. In Munich and Sankt Augustin, near Bonn, Loncar gave lectures on Yugoslavia and its position in Europe.

Reportage on German Visit

WA0712170590

For reportage on the visit by Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Budimir Loncar to Germany, including reports on his talks with German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, please see the Germany section of the 7 December West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Federal Republics Join European Regions Group

LD0712210790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1845 GMT 7 Dec 90

[Text] Zagreb, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—Vice-president of Croatia Dr. Dusan Bilandzic has said that the republic will be much more active in the Assembly of European Regions now when it has joined it as a full member.

Dr. Bilandzic spoke to reporters today on return from Strasbourg, where he attended a session of the General Assembly of European Regions.

The Yugoslav republics of Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia were admitted to the Community of European Regions on Thursday [6 December]. Bosnia-Hercegovina obtained the observer status, which Montenegro already has.

Back from Strasbourg, Serbian Premier Stanko Radmilovic last night told reporters that Serbia wants to cooperate with the Assembly of European Regions but does not neglect other European communities either.